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Hongkong, May 1, 1907. 783

THE HERBERT WITHERS CONCERT PARTY.

The Herbert Withers Concert Party concluded their visit in Hongkong on Thursday evening, when they favoured a very representative audience at the Theatre Royal with a capital programme. Needless to say encores were frequent and many were kindly given. We hope that should these talented ladies and gentlemen organise another Concert Party they will again pay Hongkong a visit. They are assured of a hearty welcome. We append the concluding programme :—

1.—Andante and Finale from Sonata, Grieg, Mme. Marguerite Elzy and Mr Herbert Withers.
2.—I am a Roamer.....Mendelssohn
Mr Charles Bennett.
3.—Jewel Song from 'Faust' (by request)
Madame Luisa Sobrino.
4.—(a) 'Memoire'.....Popper
(b) 'Serenade'.....Frank Bridge
Mr Herbert Withers.
5.—Two Etudes.....Chopin
Madame Marguerite Elzy.
6.—(a) 'Night'.....G. W. Cox
(b) 'The Dog Star'.....Pinsuti
Mr Charles Bennett.
7.—Songs.....Selected
Madame Luisa Sobrino.
8.—(a) 'Berceuse from Jocelyn' Godard
(b) 'Elfentanz'.....Popper
Mr Herbert Withers.

NEW PEAK TRAMWAY.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday afternoon the following statement was laid on the table :—

Report of proceedings of the Public Works Committee at a meeting held on the 30th December, 1908. There were present at the meeting the Hon. the Director of Public Works, Mr W. Chatham, C.M.G., Chairman ; the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, Mr A. M. Thomson, Hon. Mr E. A. Hewett and Hon. Mr H. A. W. Slade.

The Chairman stated that the proposals plan and sections of which were laid before the committee, had been submitted to Government for the construction of that portion of the tramway extending from Upper Albert Road to Robinson Road, namely :—(i.) By an open cutting running through the western section of the Public Gardens and intersecting the areas occupied by palm trees. (ii.) By a tunnel about 300 yards long, underneath the Public Gardens, commencing below Upper Albert Road and emerging near the entrance to Glenealy culvert, whence the line would be in the open and would approximately follow the course of the existing nullah. (iii.) Partly by cutting in an unimportant portion of the Public Gardens and partly by bridging in Glenealy supported on lofty trestles.

He further stated that (i) was the original proposal prepared by Messrs Denison, Ram and Gibbs when the Government was first approached on the subject, and that His Excellency Sir M. Nathan had refused to consent to it on the ground that it would cause serious damage to the Public Gardens. Scheme (ii) was then submitted but, before any definite conclusion was arrived at, the matter passed into the hands of Messrs Leigh and Orange, who, after a survey of the ground, prepared scheme (iii).

After full discussion, during which the opinion was freely expressed that there was great need of additional facilities for reaching the High Levels and Hill District, the following recommendations were unanimously agreed to:—(a). The proposal (iii) (bridging and trestles in Glenealy) be not approved. (b). That proposal (i) (open cutting through the Public Gardens) is the best and should be adopted, the damage done to the Gardens not being, in the opinion of the committee, so serious as to justify its rejection. The width of the cutting to be reduced as far as possible by the construction of retaining walls, if necessary. (c.) That, failing the approval of proposal (i) by the Government, proposal (ii) should be adopted.

The Committee were of opinion that the zigzag pathway between Government House and St. Paul's College should not be closed and the Tramway Co., should be required to carry out whatever alterations were necessary to preserve this path for the use of the public.

With regard to the limits of deviation shown on Messrs. Leigh and Orange's plan, the Committee were of opinion that these could be curtailed and should be restricted to the narrowest possible limits.

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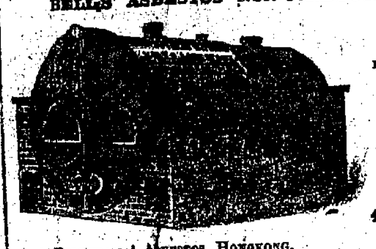
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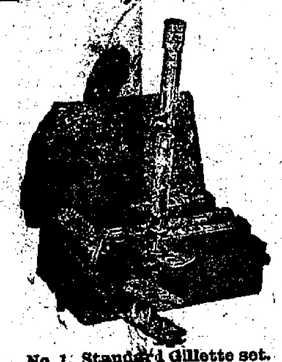
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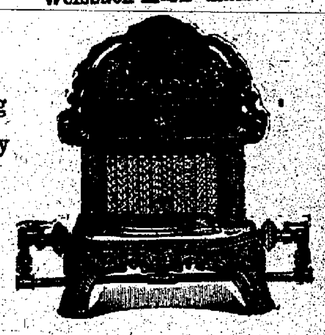
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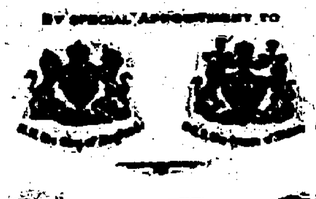
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THE OPIUM DIVANS OF HONGKONG.

The following memorandum regarding the restriction of opium in Hongkong and in China was laid before the Legislative Council on Thursday afternoon:—

On May 6th, 1908, Mr W. Johnson moved a resolution in the House of Commons (seconded by Mr F. Taylor) approving the action of His Majesty's Government in progressively decreasing the quantity of opium exported from India to China, and urging the abolition of licensed Opium Dens in the Far Eastern Crown Colonies. Both mover and seconder informed the House that in Hongkong "nothing had been attempted,—nothing done." These statements passed unchallenged, and have conveyed to the rest of the Empire an erroneous impression of the facts regarding this Colony, which has caused no little soreness in a very loyal portion of His Majesty's oversea dominions. The Under Secretary in his reply said that His Majesty's Government recognised that in dealing with the opium question in Hongkong it was essential that we should act up to the standards set by China and in a later debate on July 26th he added that it had not been possible to get a reasoned opinion from Hongkong.

I will endeavour in the following observations to remove the misunderstanding created by the remarks of Messrs. Johnson and Taylor, and at the same time to present a reasoned opinion as to the measures which may usefully and with justice be taken in order to give effect to the high object which His Majesty's Government have in view, viz., to restrict the opium habit in this Colony and to assist the Chinese Government in effecting a like restriction in China.

I write as one who has comparatively recently come to the Far East with no preconceived ideas and prejudices on the subject, but who has studied it closely for over a year. I claim moreover to have given practical proof in the past of a keen interest in matters affecting the welfare of Native Races,—e.g., the suppression of the Liquor Traffic, Slavery, etc., in Africa.

The Eastern Colonies, as a part of the British Empire, are animated by the same ideals as the United Kingdom and have a not less high standard of morality. If then the Rulers of the Empire at its centre, and the Home Parliament, with a full and accurate knowledge of the whole circumstances, arrive at the conclusion, that restriction in the matter of opium should be inaugurated in India and in the Eastern Crown Colonies, we may assume with confidence that the decision would meet with a loyal response, in spite of the fact (which Colonel Seely frankly pointed out) that it is their Revenue and their trade,—and not that of the United Kingdom,—which are affected.

The Colonies concerned are, however, naturally anxious that the Imperial decision shall be based upon an accurate presentment of the facts, and it is clear from a perusal of the speeches in the Legislative Councils and from the comments of the Colonial Press, that the communities concerned labour under an impression that public opinion in England has to some extent been misinformed as to the facts, and that in consequence the methods proposed are not in all cases such as are best adapted to the end in view, or consonant with a British sense of Justice. Willing co-operation can only be based upon a mutual conviction that the course of action adopted is one that has every prospect of being effective, and that the sacrifices made will not be futile.

I will deal first with the statement that in Hongkong nothing has been done. England has already taken one very definite step. She has promised to reduce the export of opium from India to China by one-tenth each year for the next three years, and to continue that reduction annually if at the end of three years it is shown the China has proportionately reduced the production and the consumption of the drug.

This pledge seriously affects the interests of Hongkong which has long been the mart for the trade in raw opium in the Far East. The annual value of this trade is given as £5,312,645 in 1906 and £4,656,218 in 1907. The profits made are similar to those secured in any other form of trade, and add to the general commercial business of the Port, by increasing freights, insurance (fire and marine), banking, warehousing, and handling. The extinction of the trade therefore would not merely be a loss to the merchants engaged in it but also to the general business and prosperity of the Colony. No protest, however, has yet been heard from those chiefly interested, who have accepted loyally the policy of the Home and Indian Governments, but they claim—looking to the magnitude of the trade, and to the fact that it has existed for over 100 years,—that ten years is the minimum time in which new interests can be created to replace those sacrificed, and any diminution of this period would impose too heavy a burden upon them. In this connection I venture to suggest that China should be required to reciprocate by abandoning her exports to Siam and Indo-China—both of which countries, like herself, have declared their desire to restrict the consumption of opium.

A second step has been taken in which Hongkong alone was concerned. In 1907 His Majesty's Government proposed to prohibit the exportation of prepared opium from Hongkong. Opium, under the Monopoly system in this Colony, can only be "prepared" for sale by the Farmer. It was perfectly legitimate for him to export to China under proper permit and declaration, though such export formed no part of his Monopoly rights. To prohibit it would be, however, a curtailment of the privileges under which his contract was signed, and might have involved a moral claim for compensation, but as China undertook to reciprocate and to check the smuggling of prepared opium into Hongkong the Farmer willingly agreed and the trade was abolished. The Chinese Government expressed itself as very grateful for this action by the Hongkong Government.

Further assistance has been rendered to China by Hongkong through the consistent efforts of the Colony to prevent the smuggling of opium to the Mainland, though such smuggling was of course in no way injurious to the Colony itself, and if unchecked would add to the Farm. No doubt the decrease in the rental value of the Farm in recent years is in part due to the cessation of smuggling.

It is generally believed that some ten years ago there was a very considerable smuggling trade to China, for judging by the figures of recent years it would seem probable that the Farmer at that time drew more opium from Bond than he required for his legitimate business. It is surmised that he sold the balance to smugglers, but the risks both to them and to himself were great, for the conditions of the Farm were designed to prevent smuggling and as experience was gained new precautions were from time to time taken. No one can lawfully possess prepared opium in sufficient quantities to smuggle unless procured from the Farmer for no one else may prepare opium. No one may have "loose opium," (viz., anything less than an unbroken chest), except the Farmer, and every chest imported must be declared and a permit to store obtained. Quantities in the authorised stores are checked from time to time. A new permit must be got for removal from store for export, and for removal from one place to another, or for transhipment within the Colony. The Harbour Master furnishes the master of every ship carrying opium for export with a memorandum of particulars concerning such opium, and a copy of the memo. is sent to the Imperial Maritime Customs. (Ordinance 9 of 1887.)

The Farmer used formerly to have two establishments at the east and west of the town and it was open to boats in Harbour, if found with loose opium on board, to declare that they were carrying it from one to the other, and had no intention of smuggling. In order to eliminate the possibility of illicit trade due to this cause, the Farmer since 1900 has only been allowed to maintain one establishment.

If prepared opium bearing the Hongkong Farmer's "chop" is now found in China the "chop" is probably a forgery in order to obtain sale as foreign opium for what is really native opium. If it is a fact that opium is still smuggled into China, it must be remembered that there are other non-British ports which are quite as favourably situated for the operations of smugglers as Hongkong is.

The price of prepared opium in Hongkong being double that in China there is obviously little inducement to smuggle the prepared drug, while the small number of chests drawn by the Farmer (about half the number authorised) shews that it is improbable that raw opium is illicitly exported. There is moreover independent evidence to shew that any systematic smuggling is now practically extinct, though no doubt small quantities may be occasionally exported illicitly by casual individuals.

(a.) The Police have made no seizures to speak of for eight years.

(b.) It has not come to my knowledge that the Chinese Customs, in spite of the large rewards they offer to informers, have made any important seizures.

(c.) The armed bands who in former days were met with from time to time and often offered resistance, appear to have been quite broken up.

(d.) The willingness of the Farmer to co-operate in preventing the smuggling of prepared opium to China, if the latter would reciprocate, goes to shew that he does not smuggle.

(e.) Finally there is conclusive evidence furnished by Mr Clementi's recent examination of the Farmer's books to exonerate him from any such charge.

The efforts of the Hongkong Government in recent years (and before the present agitation began) have therefore been consistently directed towards the abolition of illicit trade in either raw or prepared opium to China and there is evidence to shew that its efforts have been attended with a large measure of success. This is a benefit of the very first importance to China, and has only been secured by constant efforts and some pecuniary loss to the Colony. Recently China has pledged herself to reciprocate by checking the illicit importation of prepared opium from China into Hongkong, but her inability to translate her undoubtedly genuine desire into effective action is shewn by the fact that for the six months following that in which the agreement was made (viz., August 1907 to January 1908) the average number of seizures of prepared opium illicitly imported into Hongkong has exceeded one per diem. The smuggling takes place from various ports, Canton, Amoy, Swatow, Hoihow, etc. I have reason to know that the Viceroy at Canton is sincerely anxious to put a stop to this practice, and the Imperial Maritime Customs have done their utmost, but the effort to suppress smuggling is to attempt the impossible, so long as the price of opium in China is only half the price in Hongkong.

I have already observed that since China has appealed to the Indian Government to make heavy pecuniary sacrifices in order to restrict the import of opium, it is reasonable to expect that she herself should abandon the authorised export of Chinese grown opium. The official returns show that this export had continually increased up to 1907 when it fell to 84,737 lbs. The average for 5 years (including 1907) is 348,811 lbs. The re-export of foreign opium is slightly decreasing. In 1907 it stood at 48,400 lbs., the average for 5 years being 70,947 lbs. The total average export for the last 5 years through the Customs (i.e., apart from smuggling) is therefore 419,758 lbs. the bulk of which goes to French Indo-China. There is also a considerable illicit export of raw opium from China, to the Straits, Saigon, Bangkok, America, and other places, which as I have said can only be checked by exhancing the price of opium in China, till it equals the price in the countries to which smuggling takes place.

I have I trust shewn that, so far from having done nothing to assist China, Hongkong is perhaps the only place (until the recent action of India) which has consistently and effectively afforded assistance.

The sincerity and honesty of purpose of the Central Government and of many of the Viceroys of the eighteen great provinces of China is admitted, but the difficulties,—Financial, Industrial, and Executive—which confront the Provincial Administrations are very great. In dealing therefore with a matter which affects great industrial interests in British India, and the Native States, and the revenue and trade of the Eastern Colonies, it is imperative in justice to those whose industry and trade are affected to proceed gradually and tentatively, and not too far in advance of the steps taken by China, so that the interests of our own nationals may not be sacrificed without corresponding and tangible results in China, and we may assure ourselves alike of the permanency of the movement, and of the ability of the Central Government to carry it through in an Empire with so little cohesion as China.

The two really essential problems, which in my view China has to solve if she intends to carry out her declared intention are:—

(a.) The restriction and ultimate abolition of the cultivation of the Poppy in China.

(b.) The provision of a revenue to replace that now raised on opium.

When these two problems are in a fair way of solution it may justly be said that China has set a standard which is worthy of emulation, and has proved herself to be in earnest.

As regards restriction of cultivation. The fact must not be lost sight of that of the total quantity of opium consumed in China—estimated at 22,538 tons in 1906—

(*Continued on Page* 3.)

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE TWENTY-THIRD YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House, on TUESDAY, the 16th March, 1909, at 5.15 P.M.

By Order,
JAMES CRAIK,
Secretary.
Hongkong, March 3, 1909. 315

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE FIFTEENTH HALF-YEARLY DRAWING of SIXTY-FIVE DEBENTURES (1896) of the HONGKONG CLUB, payable on WEDNESDAY, the 31st March, 1909, will be held at the HONGKONG CLUB HOUSE at 11 o'clock A.M., on FRIDAY, the 19th March, 1909.

Bearers of Debentures are invited to attend the Drawing.

By Order,
JAMES CRAIK,
Secretary.
Hongkong, March 9, 1909. 339

CHINA EXPRESS CO.,
3, DUDDELL STREET.

SPECIAL THROUGH SERVICE.

TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

PARCELS, PACKAGES AND CASES conveyed at Special Rates, including delivery, cheaper than Parcel Post, without limit to weight.

Hongkong, Dec. 20, 1907 1940

CHEE WING & Co.
27, 28 and 29, LEE YUEN STREET (WEST.)
HONGKONG.

DEALERS IN
All Sorts of COPPER, BRASS, STEEL, IRON-WARE, &c.
STEEL GIRDERS AND TEES, CORRUGATED IRON, PIG IRON, &c.
Suitable for
SHIPS, BUILDERS AND HOUSE BUILDERS.

Telephone No. 749. 1383

Intimations.

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
HONGKONG.

TO THE
OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BYE-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such building within the WESTERN Division of the City of Victoria, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or those parts of a domestic building used as a shop, office or godown, must be CLEANSED and LIMEWASHED THROUGHOUT by the Owners during the months of February and March.

N.B.—The word 'throughout' used in this notice means that the houses should be Limewashed in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all cubicle partitions, Stair Ceilings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its Containing Walls Limewashed up to the level of the First Floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be Limewashed but must be Cleansed.

The Western division of the City lies to the West of Tank Lane and Cleverly Street.

The Government Limewashing Contractor is prepared to cleanse and limewash floors at the rate of $1.00 per floor on application being made to the Secretary of the Sanitary Board.

A. GIBSON,
Secretary.
Dated this 1st day of March, 1909. 295

GEO. FENWICK & CO. LTD.

THE TWENTIETH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held in the HONGKONG HOTEL, on SATURDAY, 13th day of March, 1909, at 12 NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, and electing Director and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 9th to the 13th instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
JOHN I. ANDREW,
General Manager.
Hongkong, March 5, 1909. 330

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-FIRST ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Offices of the General Agents, King's Building, on FRIDAY, the 19th March, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1908.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 6th to 19th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LD.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, March 2, 1909. 309

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Offices of the General Agents, King's Building, on FRIDAY, the 19th March, at 12.30 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1908.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 6th to 19th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LD.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, March 2, 1909. 310

IDEAL TOILET REQUISITES

Pinaud's Eau de Cologne and Eau de Quinine.
Colgate's Delightful Scents in elegant bottles.
La-France Rose—Cashmere Bouquet.
Italian Violets—Frangi Panni.
etc., etc., etc.
Large Parisienne Perfume Boxes Pretty for presentation.

PATELL & CO.,
SHAMEEN, CANTON.
Wine, Provision and General Merchants.

CHEAP AND REPUTED STORES FOR
English, American & German Provisions.

ICE.

WE HAVE MET THE OUT and are now selling Ice from our Depot Nos. 55-57, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL for HALF A CENT PER POUND.

We have the ONLY FACTORY IN HONGKONG manufacturing Ice from DISTILLED WATER and therefore we GUARANTEE ITS PURITY.

ORIENTAL BREWERY, LD.
Hongkong, March 11, 1909. 336

LABUAN COAL.

THE LABUAN COALFIELDS COMPANY, LD., are now prepared to deliver steamers at LABUAN with good fresh quality LABUAN COAL, double screened and straight from the mines.

For further particulars apply to
BRADLEY & CO.,
Agents.
Telegraphic Address:
'LABUAN LABUAN.'
Hongkong, February 19, 1909. 286

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....$15,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS—
Sterling.
£1,500,000@2/-=$15,000,000
Silver 14,500,000
$29,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS $15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS
Hon. Mr W. J. GRESSON—Chairman.
H. E. TOMKINS, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.
E. G. Barrett, Esq. | E. Shellim, Esq.
G. Friesland, Esq. | R. Shewan, Esq.
C. S. Gubbay, Esq. | H. A. Siebs, Esq.
W. Helms, Esq. | Hon. Mr H. A. W. Slade.
O. R. Benzmann, Esq.—

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—J. R. M. SMITH.

MANAGER:
Shanghai—W. ADAMS ORAM.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING Co., LD.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of Two per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 3 months 2½ per cent per annum.
" 6 " 3 " "
" 12 " 4 " "
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, February 20, 1909. 63

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK, to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
J. R. M. SMITH.
Chief Manager.
Hongkong January 12, 1907. 151

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1853.
HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,200,000
RESERVE FUND £1,525,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS £1,200,000

INTEREST allowed on Current Account the rate of 2 % per annum on the Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months 4 %
" " " 6 " 3½ %
" " " 3 " 2½ %
WM. DICKSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, March 1, 1909. 64

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.

(NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL } ...Fl. 45,000,000 (£3,750,000).
RESERVE FUND } ...Fl. 5,752,834:84 (£479,407). About

HEAD OFFICE—AMSTERDAM.
HEAD AGENCY—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES:—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Sourabaya, Cheribon, Pegal, Pecalongan, Passoeroean, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kota-Radja, (Acheen) Bandjermasin

Correspondents at Macassar, Bombay, Colombo, Madras, Pondicherry, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Haiphong, Hanoi, Amoy, Yokohama, Kobe, Melbourne, Sydney, New York, San Francisco, &c., &c.

LONDON BANKERS:—The Union of London and Smiths Bank, Limited.

The Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues letters of credit on its Branches and correspondents in the East, on the Continent in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and transacts banking business of every description

INTEREST ALLOWED

On Current Accounts 2% per Annum on daily balances.
Fixed Deposits 12 months 4½% per Annum.
Do. 6 months 4 % Do.
Do. 3 months 3½% Do.
J. L. VAN HOUTEN, *Agent.*
Hongkong, July 17, 1908. 41

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL, PAID-UP .....GOLD $3,250,000 about Mex. $7 222,222.
RESERVE FUND .....GOLD $3,250,000. about Mex. $7,222,222.

HEAD OFFICE—
60 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.
LONDON OFFICE—THREADNEEDLE HOUSE E.C.

LONDON BANKERS;
BANK OF ENGLAND.
Imperial Provincial Bank of England, Ltd.
The Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd.

BRANCHES & AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE Corporation Transacts every description of Banking and Exchange business, receives money in Current Account at the rate of 2% per annum on daily balances and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:—
For 12 months 4½ per cent per annum.
For 6 " 4 per cent per annum.
For 3 " 3 per cent per annum.

No. 9, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong.
W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, January 24, 1908.

Banks

THE MERCHANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED.....£1,125,000
PAID UP .....£ 562,500
RESERVE FUND .....£ 210,000

BANKERS:
LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts the rate of 2% per annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 months.....4 %
" 6 " .....3½ %
" 3 " .....2½ %
EVAN ORMISTON,
Manager.
Hongkong, April 22, 1908. 42

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

CAPITAL PAID-UP ... ... Yen 24,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS ... ... " 15,100,000

HEAD OFFICE—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

TOKIO.	KOBE.	NAGASAKI.
LONDON.	LYONS.	NEW YORK.
SAN FRANCISCO.	HONOLULU.	BOMBAY.
SHANGHAI.	HANKOW.	CHEFOO.
TIENTSIN.	PEKING.	NEWCHWANG
PORT ARTHUR.	DALNY.	ANTUNG.
LIUYANG	MUKDEN.	TIE-LING.
CHANG-CHUN.		

HONGKONG—Interest allowed.
On Current Account at the Rate of 2% per annum on the daily balance.
ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 months.....5% per annum.
For 6 months.....4% "
For 3 months.....3% "
TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, September 12, 1908.

RUSSO-CHINESE BANK.

ORGANISED UNDER IMPERIAL DECREE OF 10TH DECEMBER, 1895.

CAPITAL ..... { 15,000,000 Roubles 2,000,000 Sh. Taels
CAPITAL contributed by CHINESE GOVERNMENT ...5,000,000 K. Taels
RESERVE FUND .....Roubles 4,955,000.

HEAD OFFICE—ST. PETERSBURG.

London Office: 41, Threadneedle St., E.C.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Andijon	Khokan	Peking
Batoum	Kiachta	Samarkand
Balgoweschensk	Kirin	San Francisco
Bodalbo	Kobe	Shanghai
Boukhara	Kouldja	Stretensk
Busk	Krasnoiarsk	Tashkend
Calcutta	Kwantchendze	Tchita
Chefoo	Liaoyang	Tchoungoutche
Hailar	London	Tientsin
Hakhodate	Marguelan	Tsitsihar
Hankow	Moscow	Verchneoudinsk
Harbin	Moukden	Verny
Hongkong	Nagasaki	Vladivostock
Irkutsk	Newchwang	Yokohama
Kalgan	Nicolajevsk	Zaiskalo
Kashgar	Ourga	Pristan
Khabarovsk	Paris	

BANKERS:
LONDON—Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co.
PARIS—Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris. Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas.
BERLIN—Mendelssohn & Co.
HAMBURG—M. M. Warburg & Co.
VIENNA—K. K. Priv. Oesterr Credit Anstalt fu Handel Gewerbe.
AMSTERDAM—Lippmann, Rosenthal & Co.

Interest Allowed:
Current Accounts in Dollars 2½ per cent. per annum on credit balances of $1,000 and over.
Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.
Local Bills discounted. Special facilities for Russian exchange. Foreign exchange on the principal cities of the world bought and sold.
A. KRAEUTLER, *Manager.*
HONGKONG BRANCH:
PRINCE'S BUILDINGS.
Hongkong, March 12, 1909.

THE
Bangkok Times.

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN SIAM

And widely circulated in Malaya, Cochin China, the Straits Settlements, and Burma.

A DAILY NEWSPAPER, with a weekly Mail Edition (20 pp.)

SUBSCRIPTION, DAILY (postage extra), Ticals 50 a year,
WEEKLY, including postage, $3 p.a.
ADVERTISING RATES. Per inch (8 lines), Ticals 2, one insertion; Ticals 4 cents 50, three times; Ticals 6 cents 75 a week; Ticals 14 cents 47, a first month; subsequent months, Ticals cents 25.

A UNIQUE FEATURE of the "Bangkok Times" is its Siamese version. Thus the advertiser is enabled to talk as it were with the Siamese in their own tongue without knowing one word of it, the "Bangkok Times" doing the translations required.

Literary communications should be addressed to the EDITOR. Business communications to the MANAGER. Cheques and Post Office Orders in favour of MANAGER, "Bangkok Times."

Orders booked by MANAGER, Oldest Mail Agency in Siam. Offices Mo37

GEO. P. LAMMERT
AUCTIONEER.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY,

the 13th March, 1909, commencing at 11 A.M., at his SALES ROOMS, DUDDELL STREET,—

A FINE SELECTION OF JEWELLERY, Comprising:—

DIAMOND RINGS, BROOCHES, BRACELETS, GOLD WATCHES, CHAINS, NECKLACES, SCARF PINS, &c., &c;

And

A FEW DIAMOND SOLITAIRE RINGS (up to 5 Carats).

TERMS:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

THE UNDER-MENTIONED VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY will, by Order of the Mortgagee, be offered for Sale by Mr GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Victoria, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 17th March, 1909, at 12 o'clock NOON.

Each Lot subject to a reserved price.

Lot 1. MARINE LOT 6A, with No. 19, Jervois Street thereon. Area 1028 Square feet. Term 999 years from 14th February, 1887.

Lot 2. KOWLOON INLAND LOT 430, with No. 137, Station Street North, Mongkoktsui, thereon. Area 1150 Square feet. Term 75 years from 20th February, 1888.

Lot 3. KOWLOON INLAND LOT 431, with No. 135, Station Street North, Mongkoktsui, thereon. Area 1150 Square feet. Term 75 years from 20th February, 1888.

Lot 4. KOWLOON INLAND LOT 432, with No. 133, Station Street North, Mongkoktsui, thereon. Area 1150 Square feet. Term 75 years from 20th February, 1888.

For further particulars and condition of Sale apply to the Auctioneer or to MR H. K. HOLMES, Solicitor for the Vendor, 54, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

MILNERS' PATENT FIRE - - - RESISTING SAFES

As supplied to the principal banks and mercantile houses.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Particulars and Conditions of the lotting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 15th day of March, 1909, at 3 P.M., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Conduit Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 10th July, 1899.

Particulars of the Lot.

No. of Sale.	Lot No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements.	Deposit in $.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price $
205	1	Inland Lot 1515, Conduit Road. Inland Lot No. 1905.	As per sale plan.	12,000 (about)	82	1,600

CARMICHAEL AND CLARKE,
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS,
3, Queen's Building, Hongkong.
8-5, CHANCE ALLEY, SINGAPORE.

CABLE ADDRESS
CARMICHAEL, HONGKONG.
CARMICHAEL, SINGAPORE.
Codes Used:—Scott's 10th Edition; A.B.C. 4th and 5th Editions; Lieber's Standard; Watkins; Western Union and A.I.
TELEPHONE No. 293.

THE COMMERCIAL LAW AFFECTING CHINESE;
With Special Reference to PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION AND BANKRUPTCY LAWS IN HONGKONG.
Reprinted from the *China Mail*.)
For Sale at the *China Mail* Office, at 5, Wyndham Street.

Leech points out, new countries will grow opium when the Indian export is restricted. For China is not the only country which has cause to fear the effects of the misuse of opium, and its derivative morphine. The United States of America, it is said, imports seven or eight times as much as is required for medicinal purposes, and has lately passed a law restricting this import,—as also has Canada. It will be open to the non-producing countries to follow this lead, and by agreement with the countries of origin to control the import for medicinal purposes in whatever way may appear best calculated to guard against misuse, *viz.*, either by a Government Monopoly, or by the institution of a system of permits to authorised wholesale dealers, who may sell only to licensed druggists.

So far as China is concerned, the bargain with India and the similar restriction of import of Persian and Turkish opium relieves her of all difficulty as regards the ½ part of her consumption which is imported. The remedy for the other ½ which is home-grown is in her own hands. The bulk of the world's supply of medicinal opium comes from Turkey, for Turkish opium contains from 9 per cent to 12 per cent of morphia as against 4 per cent or 5 per cent in Indian opium. The average export for the last 6 years is 718,337 lbs and there is at present no Government control. The total export from India is put at 67,000 chests, of which 51,000 goes to China, and will presumably disappear in the course of 10 years. There remains 16,000 chests as India's contribution to the medicinal supply of the world.

As regards the second of the "essential problems"—the raising of a revenue to replace that derived from opium,—it would be wholly beyond my province to make suggestions in a matter with which the Chinese Government is alone competent to deal. Already in some provinces a Salt Tax has been imposed,—in others fees for permits to buy opium. The land-tax was declared by the Edict of 1713 to be immutable for all time, though our experience in the leased territories of this Colony has shown that it can be increased without hardship. But China has many other resources, such as the development of minerals, a tax on spirits and the purification of her system of collection of taxes.

So far I have dealt with the aims of the Chinese Government, and the direct assistance afforded to it by India and Hongkong in i s efforts to restrict the importation (legally or illegally) into China of raw or prepared opium. I will now pass in review the methods adopted by the Hongkong Government to restrict and control the consumption of opium within the Colony. I will add some proposals by which restriction may be made still more effective in the future.

The most effective of these, both for restriction and control, has, as experience proves, been the institution of a monopoly leased for a specified period of three years to a "Farmer," for the sole right to prepare opium for sale, and to sell it, in the Colony. His right to import prepared opium without declaration and to export it were also recognised. The farm is a lucrative business and its acquisition therefore is the object of keen competition, and the Government derives from the sale of the Monopoly a sum equal to nearly a fourth of its entire Revenue. Seeing that the farm is a restrictive agency this Revenue is entirely legitimate and in any case is no more subject to criticism than the licence fees derived from public houses here or in England. The Government derives no other revenue from opium, except the negligible licences to divan keepers. I have already in a previous paragraph quoted the conditions imposed by the terms of his licence upon the Farmer, and the privileges reserved to him by Ordinance. In order to protect his monopoly the Farmer has to employ a large staff of detectives and to offer rewards to informers.

In order to pay for these and also the high fee to Government he is compelled to enhance the retail price of opium, and this enhancement has been progressive in each triennial period for which the farm has been let. In 1900 the price of prepared opium in Hongkong to the smoker, was $1.50 per tael. In 1904 the next licencee put up the price to $3 which was again increased in 1905 to $3.30. Thus the amount of opium purchasable for 10 cents has been as follows between the years 1899-1904:—

1.5, 1.2, .1, .8, .57, .4, .3, mace (1¼ oz.)

175, 195, 228, 233, 243, 293, 331, thousand population.

The price in Hongkong is therefore much higher than in the neighbouring city of Canton. In Hongkong it varies from $3.30 to $3.50 per tael while in Canton it is from 80 cents to $1.53.

This fact naturally encourages smuggling into the Colony, and since Hongkong, being a Free Port, has no Customs Preventive Service it would be impossible to check the smuggling of raw or of prepared opium as effectively as the Farmer can do it when his own pecuniary interests are involved, for it must be remembered that the Colony of Hongkong consists of an island and a peninsula, around whose shores are fleets of trading and fishing junks, while opium being light and of small bulk is easily concealed.

The Farmer can employ spies and informers, both to check smuggling and to detect illicit boiling of opium, but such methods should, when possible, be avoided by a Government on any extended scale. The Government, however, renders him all possible assistance and issues search warrants on information supplied by the Farmer. The Farmer's Excise Officers also search all persons landing in Hongkong, except a few exempted for public service. This search is most unpopular amongst the Chinese and exemption incidentally stimulates men to come forward for public service. The Farm is disliked in consequence of the search which, however, it would be equally necessary to maintain if the Farm were abolished, (in which case the odium would be incurred by the Government), unless restriction of opium ceased. Beyond doubt the creation of a Monopoly in Chinese hands is the most effective method conceivable for controlling the smuggling, sale, and use of opium in the Colony.

A monopoly by Government was tried and resulted in a decrease in the receipts in the second year to less than half those of the first year, due to the impossibility of coping with the smuggling and illicit "preparation" of opium. The Revenue lost by Government was therefore so much additional profit to the Smuggler, instead of going to the Farmer, who provides the Preventive Service and to the Government which uses its profits for the maintenance of Police, Sanitation, Education, etc. A Government monopoly is moreover more likely to lend to venality and corruption of subordinate officials. In view of what I have said it cannot be justly argued that the Government delegates its functions to an individual and loses prestige, since it co-operates in the duties of search and arrest, while avoiding the odium of employing informers and of making a direct profit by the sale of opium.

Under the terms of his licence the Farmer is entitled to withdraw from bond, (in order to "prepare" it), 1,800 chests per annum. This may be increased by imports of prepared and dross opium (not of raw) and he may export as well as supply the local demand. It appears to be a fact that in former years the Farmer did import prepared opium from Singapore, and that much was smuggled to China, but he states that none has been imported for 15 years. However that may be Mr Clementi's examination of his books proved beyond question that none is imported now except opium dross, "halan," and "tautsingko" which are imported from Canton and Macao to be used in the "preparation" of crude opium for smoking.

Although Macao was always a rival in the export trade and secured the greater share of it, the Hongkong Farmer does a certain amount of business in this line. The markets of Australia and the Philippines are now closed, and more recently (by the prohibiting Ordinance of 1908) that of China also, but it is probable that he still exports about 12 per cent. of his opium. The actual number of chests withdrawn by him from bond, since 1895 is as follows:—

1895	1607½	1902	929½
1896	1515½	1903	990
1897	1589	1904	725
1898	1704	1905	858
1899	1749	1906	497
1900	1008	1907	725
1901	1036½	1908	934

The low figures in 1904 and 1906 were due to financial embarrassments of the Farmer in those years, caused by the fact that he had tendered for a larger payment to Government than the monopoly could afford. The payment which stood at $2,041,940 in 1905 and 1906 fell in the next contract (March 1907) to $1,452,000. In fact in 1906 the Farmer had to suspend the operations of the farm altogether for some months and adulterated opium was sold. The average for the period excluding these two years is 1,253 chests per annum.

Since the year 1901, the farm has been in the hands of Singapore merchants, who have put up the local retail price from $2 per tael (in 1901) to its present rate ($3.37) and by this means,—aided by the reduction in the Government rent,—have succeeded in making it pay, in spite of the cessation of smuggling to China and the loss of the Australian and other markets.

This great increase in local selling price would naturally result in a considerable decrease in smoking, for the poorer classes could not afford to buy so much, but since there are no records of the quantities of prepared opium imported and exported (whether legitimately or otherwise) by the Farmer, it is not possible to gauge the decrease precisely, by the quantities of raw opium drawn from t by the Farmer. It will, however, b oted that this decrease in smoking, ther with the abolition of the smuggling traffic, have combined to reduce the revenue received by Government as rental for the Farm by $588,000, since the last contract was made. It will be noted also that the amount of opium prepared by the Farmer has greatly decreased since 1893 in spite of the acquisition of the New Territories in that year which added about ½ to the population.

The restriction of the export from India will probably enhance the value of raw opium, and this with the restrictions already alluded to, and others to which I am about to refer, will probably still further reduce the tender in 1910. This in itself constitutes a heavy contribution on the part of the Colony to the policy inaugurated by His Majesty's Government, at a time when, owing to a prolonged depression in trade and to other causes, it is in considerable financial difficulties. Any serious decrease in revenue makes it, of course, more difficult to maintain effective Police supervision, without which the Farmer would be unable to protect his monopoly and prevent smuggling of opium into the Colony, or from the Colony into China.

There is no evidence to shew that the Farmer in any way endeavours to promote the consumption of opium. No methods of inducement or advertisement are used. Opium divans are not in any way made attractive by meretricious devices as are public houses in England, and sales are in no way pushed.

I have endeavoured to shew that the system of farming the monopoly of the right to prepare and sell opium results in enhancing the price of the drug and thereby restricts the consumption (the average price of the various grades of the raw drug is only about ½ of the average retail selling price in Hongkong); that it is a potent and indeed the only means of checking smuggling either into the Colony or from it to China; and that it produces a revenue that is perfectly legitimate and is expended in providing a Police, Service, etc.

In order to give effect to the policy of His Majesty's Government it is feasible to enhance the restrictions imposed upon the Farmer. Prior to the year 1891 he was allowed to draw 3,650 chests of opium per annum in order to "prepare" and sell it. Since that year the number has been fixed at 1,800, and though it is true that he has not as a matter of fact drawn anything like this amount, it is impossible, except with his consent, to reduce this number, until the present contract expires in March, 1910:

(a.) The number could then be reduced by half, viz., 900, and if China perseveres in her efforts it may in future years be progressively diminished,—though for reasons which I will presently give I think it of more than doubtful utility to abolish the supply altogether. Since the population is rapidly increasing this constitutes a very substantial decrease. With the decrease of the export from India and the presumable cessation of the export from China, the supply will moreover be greatly curtailed and the cost proportionately increased. The Farmer is willing to agree to an immediate decrease (from March 1909) to 1,000 chests with 200 extra, if required, for *bonâ fide* export to places other than China.

(b.) If the Farmer for the purposes of his operations should import any prepared opium he must declare it (as also opium dross, dross opium, and "halan"), and an equivalent deduction will be made from the quantity of raw opium he is allowed to draw.

(c.) He may similarly be called upon to report his monthly sales of prepared and dross opium, whether in the Colony or exported, and in the latter case their destination.

(d.) He would be prohibited from selling any opium to women or children, whether for their own use or not.

These restrictions would of course decrease the value of the farm, and thereby involve a loss of revenue to the Colony, which would however be expended in a practical effort to give effect to the policy of the Home Government.

There are other important steps which have been taken by this Colony to control and restrict the use of opium, both as regards the question of divans, and (most important of all) as regards the importation, sale, and use, of morphine, and compounds of opium (for eating, as well as cocaine, including moreover recent action with a view to controlling the transit trade in the former to prevent smuggling to China. These matters are however best dealt with under the subsequent paragraphs relating to Divans, and Morphia, &c.

(To be Continued).

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DWELLING ROOMS and OFFICES in QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
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U. M. S. PEAK BUNGALOW, Furnished, MOUNT KELLET, from 1st April to end of June.
6, CAMERON VILLAS, 59, PEAK.
GLENSHIEL next to Plantation Road Tram Station, FURNISHED, 6 Rooms, for 6 months from 5th May, 1909.
Apply to
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Hongkong, April 12, 1907. 164

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ROOMS in HOTEL MANSIONS, suitable for Offices or Chambers.
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Alexandra Buildings.
Hongkong, January 27, 1909. 128

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NOS. 8 and 10, WYNDHAM STREET containing 6 Large Rooms each. Can be let together or separately.
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PEROY SMITH & SETH.
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OFFICES in ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.
Apply to
SECRETARY,
A. S. WATSON & Co., LD.
Hongkong, April 22, 1907. 730

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GODOWNS Nos. 95, 96 & 97, PRAYA EAST.
Apply to
CHATER & MODY.
Hongkong, October 17, 1908. 1422

TO LET.

SHOP, No. 14, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, on Lease.
'ROSENEATH' GARDEN ROAD, Kowloon.
Apply to LEIGH & ORANGE.
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'FUNG SHUI,' The PEAK.—To be let Furnished for 8 months or longer
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70,000 SQUARE FEET of LAND with 200 foot frontage to Kowloon Bay. Moderate Rental.
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Hongkong, August 23, 1907. 1369

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ALTEDENA, 130, BARKER ROAD, The Peak; from May 16th, for six or seven months.
Apply to J. S. VAN BUREN,
Hongkong, March 3, 1909. 331

TO LET.

UNFURNISHED, No. 2, MOUNTAIN VIEW; at present occupied by Captain WALKER, R.E.; possession April 8th.
Apply J. W. NOBLE,
13, Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, February 19, 1909. 248

TO LET.

THE ROOM next to the PUBLIC BAR, facing Des Voeux Road.
Apply to the SECRETARY of the HONGKONG HOTEL Co., LTD.
Hongkong, January 29, 1909. 142

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 5A, DUDDELL STREET.
Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., LD.
Hongkong, March 1, 1909. 709

TO LET.

NO. 1, OBSERVATORY VILLAS, Kowloon, Electric Lights, Tennis Court, etc.
ORANEE BUNGALOW, Kowloon, with Garden attached. Moderate Rental.
Apply
ARRATOON V. APCAR & CO.,
45, Wyndham Street.
Hongkong, March 2, 1909. 305

TO LET.

NO. 47, CAINE ROAD (next to Forest Lodge), Suitable for a Boarding House, School, College, or Family Residence. Recently painted and renovated throughout. Immediate possession.
Apply to
CHATER & MODY.
Hongkong, January 27, 1909. 139

TO LET.

OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, Blue Buildings, and No. 16B, DES VOEUX ROAD, NEAR to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORRISON TERRACE.
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A Five-Roomed House in CONDUIT ROAD. Terms moderate.
Apply 'X.,'
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Hongkong, February 8, 1909. 178

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A SPACIOUS BUILDING in a Picturesque Garden, including all Furniture for restaurant only.
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No. 5, Wellington St.
Hongkong, December 23, 1908. 1726

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41, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, November 18, 1908. 1579

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JEYES FLUID
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BANK BUILDINGS.
Hongkong, May 18, 1908 1024

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BY J. A. E.

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SPRING SEASON.

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To be given by the Band of 2nd Batt. the 'Buffs' (by kind permission of Lt.-Col. Bayard, D.S.O., and Officers).

In aid of the H.K. Ladies' Benevolent Society and Eyre Refuge.

Assisted by local Ladies and Gentlemen.

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Hongkong, February 23, 1909. 271

VICTORIA = = =

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Hongkong, March 6, 1909. 328

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679

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Meeting.

Noon—Meeting of Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ld., at Hongkong Hotel.

Miscellaneous

Goods per *Prinz Waldemar* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

General Memoranda.

MONDAY, March 15:—

3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at the Public Works Department's Offices.

9 p.m.—Military Band Concert at City Hall.

FRIDAY, March 19:—

11 a.m.—Fifteenth Half-Yearly Drawing of Sixty-five Debentures of Hongkong Club at Club House.

Noon—Meeting of China Sugar Refining Co., Ld., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson Co.'s Office.

12.30 p.m.—Meeting of Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ld., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson Co.'s Office

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1909.

HONGKONG'S OPIUM DIVANS.

Now we know the worst. Speaking in the Legislative Council on Thursday afternoon in explanation of various despatches and a memorandum placed upon the table, His Excellency the Governor Sir FREDERICK LUGARD announced that Lord CREWE, the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, had finally declared that the British Government cannot depart from the policy it had resolved upon in the matter of the opium divans of Hongkong. These will have to be closed, but instead of the drastic steps which were first intended to be pursued, the Home authorities, having acquired a little wisdom and thereby a little discretion, have agreed to Hongkong's proposals that half the divans be closed in March, 1909, the remainder in March, 1910. Great Britain is evidently very anxious to persuade the world of the sincerity of her stand on the opium question and we sincerely trust that she will display the same tender regard for the dictates of the higher morality when it comes to making compensation to the Colony for the heavy loss of revenue which this action on her part entails.

The abuse of opium, like the abuse of alcohol, is an evil which all must deplore, but nevertheless practical men of the world must acknowledge that the evil propensities inherent in human nature have never yet been reformed by an Act of Parliament. Anti-opium reformers always lay stress on the simile that good is generally achieved when an ill-weed is rooted out and a plant beneficial to mankind is put in its place. Granted. But what do these reformers intend to offer to the Chinese in the place of opium? Nothing, as far as we can see, and the result of the entire closing of the public opium divans in Hongkong will be to drive the opium-smokers underground and the final effect will be infinitely more deplorable from a moral point of view than the rescinding of various sanitary acts has been for India and various of the Colonies under the British Crown. It is very sad that human nature should be constituted as it is, that so large a proportion of the natives of the vast Asiatic continent should desire at times a sedative whose abuse leads to such grave consequences, but that being so it is foolish to avoid facts and legislate in such a way that the evil sought to be erased is replaced by evils seven times worse.

The British as a race are somewhat justly accused of being too fond of forcing the bad habits of other people and ignoring their own gross immoralities. The curse of alcohol is writ large all over the cities and towns of England, Scotland and Ireland, yet we shall no doubt be charged with being morally benumbed were we to say that the opium vice in Hongkong is as nothing in comparison with it. The temperate review of the whole situation contained in His Excellency's despatch to the Colonial Office puts the whole question in its proper light and we regret that it has failed to convince Lord CREWE, for in our opinion a very grave mistake has been made in entirely prohibiting the public smoking of opium in Hongkong; the evil should have been combatted in a different fashion. Only recently we had a striking instance of the futility of such legislation. Prohibition laws in New Zealand which have led to wholesale closing of public houses and hotel bars have had the effect of sending up the imports of spirituous liquors into the Dominion by 37 per cent., showing that if the drinking of liquor in public is banned then its consumption in private has been unduly stimulated. And we are afraid that a similar experience awaits Hongkong: with the public divans closed the opium-smokers will be driven to indulge in their own or their neighbours' houses and the last state of things, like the famous case cited in Holy Scripture, will be worse than the first.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Owing to more urgent demands on our news columns we have been compelled to hold over the report of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Amoy and West River Notes, and other interesting matter.

The strike of motor-men and conductors on the Manila tramways continues, but the Company is finding little difficulty in finding fitting substitutes for the strikers. Every car has an armed guard after night fall.

In the matter of travelling theatrical companies, the *Asian* advises Mr Bandmann that Calcutta has reached a stage in her existence when she considers that she is as good as Leeds, Glasgow or Edinburgh. Perhaps it is right.

On Tuesday evening the Y.M.C.A. Literary and Debating Society will meet the Union Church Literary Society at the Y.M.C.A. in a debate on the question of "the action of the self-governing colonies in excluding Asiatics." The public are invited to attend.

On Saturday evening, Mr. W. Drew Braidwood, F.E.I.S., will give a lecture, at the Y.M.C.A. rooms, the subject of which is "The Scottish Highlands and Islands." Excellent lantern views will be used to illustrate the lecture. The chair will be taken at 9 p.m., and the public are cordially invited to attend.

In answer to the telegrams of congratulations sent from Manila, the new Secretary of the White House cabled—"President and Mrs Taft request me to express to the Executive committee of the Inaugural Ball their deepest appreciation of the kind messages, the receipt of which has been one of the greatest pleasures of the inauguration."

Duty on an artist's signature was passed upon in a decision of the Board of United States General Appraisers recently, they holding that it increased the value of book plates printed in New York, sent to England to be signed by the artist making the original drawing and then brought back for publication. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., who made the plates, protested at a duty charge of twenty-five per cent, declaring they received no additional price for the publication because of the insertion of one of the signed plates.

ROLLER SKATING.

Bangkok has taken the lead in a roller skating rink scheme and it is now so far advanced that residents are already purchasing their skates. Singapore is likely to come out one better in providing a stadium which will include a skating rink, a swimming bath and racing track all combined. What [illegible]ngkong doing in this respect?

Rear Admiral (retired) and Mrs Theo. F. Jewell U.S.N. are staying at the Hongkong Hotel, and Rear Admiral (retired) and Mrs Mead at the Astor House. Admiral and Mrs Jewell sail on Tuesday on the *Asia*. Admiral and Mrs Mead will be in the city for about a week.

BEWARE OF FREQUENT COLDS.

A Succession of colds or a protracted cold is almost certain to end in chronic catarrh, from which few persons ever wholly recover. Give every cold the attention it deserves and you may avoid this agreeable disease. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cure of colds. For sale by all chemists and storekeepers.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr J. L. McPherson, secretary of the Y.M.C.A., is away on leave of absence for a few weeks.

The *Straits Echo* has good authority for stating that Kang Yu-wei has left Penang ostensibly for Port Said.

Mr J. H. Scott, head of Messrs Butterfield and Swire, is returning home by the P. and O. steamer Macedonia.

Mr Rufus H. Thayer, the new American Judge in Shanghai, is shortly expected to go on circuit, Canton being the first place visited.

Dr A. P. Wilder, the American Consul General at Hongkong, goes on short leave in April next. His wife and family are at present residing at Berkeley, California.

Persistent rumours are afloat to the effect that the Crown Prince of Korea, at present pursuing his studies in Tokyo, will shortly be betrothed to a Japanese Princess.

THE AMERICAN SQUADRON.

Arrived This Evening.

Rear Admiral Giles B. Harber, commanding the third squadron of the United States Pacific Fleet, gave the order to up anchor on Wednesday morning about 8 o'clock and immediately the following vessels executed "ships right" and steamed out of Manila Bay in column formation: Charleston, (flagship) Commander Harry S. Knapp, commanding; Cleveland, Commander Louis S. Van Duzer, commanding; Denver, Commander James P. Parker, commanding; Galveston, Commander Marbury Johnston, commanding; Chattanoga, Commander Edward E. Wright, commanding.

The squadron arrived here this evening. The gunboats Wilmington, Helena, Villaloboz, Callao and Samar will join the fleet at northern Chinese ports.

Last year the American squadron under Admiral Hemphill arrived on Easter Sunday, April 19. The men-of-war included the Rainbow, Helena, Concord, Wilmington and Samar.

HOTEL "BOY" PROSECUTES "RUNNER."

One of the Hongkong Hotel "boys" charged J. H. Oxberry, the "runner," with assault at the Magistracy to-day. His story was that on the 10th inst. he was helping to cart some luggage to the wharf, and in the hurry one of the pieces fell from the top. Thereupon defendant came up suddenly from behind and struck him two blows on the face causing his mouth and nose to bleed. This was corroborated by two other "boys."

Defendant stated that the prosecution was merely a matter of revenge on him for reporting the "boys" to the manager. Altogether eight pieces of baggage fell into the mud. On his ordering the "boys" to put these packages under the wharf they simply went on laughing and jeering, while the complainant swore at him in Chinese. Witness then reached out his hand to catch hold of complainant and on the latter seeking to avoid him his hand accidentally caught him in the face. The four "boys" concerned were brought before the manager and were each fined 50 cents for insolence and carelessness.

His Worship (Mr J. H. Kemp) said there was an assault and the fact that there was some provocation was no answer to the technical offence. But as the assault was trivial and in view of the conduct of the "boy" he should not convict. Defendant would be discharged.

ROSA BARNES' EVENING AT HOME.

The Alexandra Cinematograph, under it's new management, is giving evidence of a spirit of enterprise that is calculated to quickly raise this attractive place of amusement to first place in the affections of the Hongkong public. The Rosa Barnes opening "Evening at Home" at this theatre on Wednesday evening must have been exceedingly gratifying to both the artiste and the management, as, not only was every seat filled, notwithstanding the inclement weather but the character of the audience was distinctly good, and while every number was received with the greatest enthusiasm, the applause was in keeping with the character of the audience and the tone of the entertainment. Miss Barnes has a most pleasing personality and a very flexible and sympathetic voice, and the tasteful costume adopted for her numbers, harmonizing as it does with the title of her "Evening," is not the least pleasing of the many features introduced.

The programme given offered wide scope for the versatility and evidences of "temperament" for which this artiste is noted, and which have given her pre-eminence throughout the East. Opening with a ballad that won an immediate response from her audience, she gave as her second number a splendidly executed whistling solo in "My Dear," and followed it, after a most enthusiastic encore, with a dialect recitation entitled "The Dream," in which she displayed more than usual dramatic power, working gradually forward through a constantly changing atmosphere of pathos, sentiment, and character study to a climax of high comedy that produced a roar of amusement, only equalled by the subsequent encore of her Pianologue, "I'm Afraid to come Home in the Dark," depicting the troubles of the timid man with a new umbrella. The final number was a very fine rendering of "The Lily of the Nile," in which Miss Barnes accompanied herself on the piano, and a very pleasing feature of which was the introduction of softly shaded lights, lending a most artistic touch to this brilliantly executed selection.

The Alexandra management is entitled to cordial congratulations on the endorsement given their enterprise in securing this expensive fixture as the star attraction of their deservedly popular entertainment. Judging from the initial response made and the character of the programme offered they will have no occasion to question the wisdom of the investment.

THE CONDITION OF MANCHURIA.

(*Wah Tze Yat Po's Service.*)

PEKING, March 11.

A great conference was held at the Board of Foreign Affairs on the 8th. inst., when the presidents of the various Boards were present. The present condition of Manchuria was discussed.

THE CHINESE CONSTITUTION.

(*Wah Tze Yat Po's Service.*)

PEKING, March 11.

His Excellency Lun Kwei, Governor of Chinese Turkestan, petitioned the Throne that constitutional measures should not be enforced in the province over which he governs on account of the low standard of civilization prevailing. The request of His Excellency has been refused.

A BIG LOAN.

FOR RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION

(*Wah Tze Yat Po's Service.*)

PEKING, March 11.

The Board of Finance has agreed that Chung Chi-tung be asked to negotiate with the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank for a loan of three million pounds sterling to build the northern section of the Canton-Hankow railway.

PRINCE SU RESIGNS.

(*Wah Tze Yat Po's Service.*)

PEKING, March 11.

Prince Su has resigned the presidency of the Board of the Interior in order that he may devote his whole attention to the reorganization of the navy.

ITEMS AT THE COURTS.

The owner of No. 10 Western Street was, at the Magistracy to-day, fined $5 for allowing water to run to waste.

For having a quantity of illicit opium in his possession a native was ordered to pay a fine of $200, at the Magistracy, to-day, or to undergo six weeks' imprisonment.

A fine of $25 was imposed at the Magistracy, to-day, by Mr J. H. Kemp, on a tenant who altered the staircase in his house without first having obtained a permit.

A storekeeper employed by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company was sentenced to one month's imprisonment at the Magistracy on Thursday, for stealing a padlock.

For returning from banishment for the second time a coolie was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with four hours in the stocks, by Mr J. R. Wood, at the Magistracy on Thursday.

Two coppersmiths employed at the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock were sentenced to one months' imprisonment and ordered four hours in the stocks for stealing brass and copper fittings at the Magistracy, to-day.

Private Hanson, of the Buffs, was again brought before Mr J. H. Kemp, at the Magistracy, on Thursday, on a charge of assaulting a rickshaw coolie. He was committed to prison for one month, and ordered to pay the coolie $15 compensation, in default a further month's imprisonment.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA AND DIARRHŒA REMEDY.

THIS medicine is well known for its prompt cures of bowel complaint, which is always more or less prevalent at this season of the year. An attack of diarrhœa is liable to come on without warning, and if a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy is kept in the house all danger of serious illness may be avoided. For sale by all chemists and storekeepers.

AUSTRIAN MILITARY LOAN.

(*Exclusive Service supplied by Reuter, via Bombay.*)

LONDON, March 11.

The Austrian loan of nine millions sterling, mainly for military expenditure, has been largely covered.

REDISTRIBUTION OF THE BRITISH NAVY.

(*Reuter's Service to the China Mail. Copyright protected under Ordinance 3 of 1894.*)

LONDON, March 11.

It is understood that the naval redistribution, which begins on the 24th inst, will include the "modernising" of the Mediterranean Fleet.

A Second Cruiser Squadron will be constituted on a permanent basis to "show the flag" throughout the Empire.

"SHORT TIME" FOR COTTON SPINNERS.

(*Reuter's Service to the China Mail: Copyright protected under Ordinance 3 of 1894.*)

LONDON, March 11.

A Committee of the Cotton Employers' Federation at Manchester has decided to take a vote before the 25th inst. on the question of working short time in the American Section till Whitsuntide.

NEW BRITISH-SIAMESE TREATY.

KELANTAN, TRIGANO, KEDAH UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION.

Extraterritoriality Gradually Surrendered.

(*Reuter's Service to the China Mail: Copyright protected under Ordinance 3 of 1894.*)

LONDON, March 12.

A Treaty has been signed at Bangkok whereby Siam renounces suzerainty over Kelantan, Trigano and Kedah in favour of Great Britain, while the latter agrees to a gradual abolition of extra-territoriality in Siam. British subjects registered after the signature of the Treaty come under the jurisdiction of the Siamese Courts, but European advisers will sit in all Courts wherein British subjects are defendants.

The Federated Malay States agree to provide four millions sterling for the purpose of constructing a railway from Bangkok southward to the new Malayaian boundary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONTAMINATION.

(*To the Editor of the* CHINA MAIL.)

SIR,—Now that the plague has practically disappeared from the Colony, a more dangerous form of contamination seems to have concentrated in the very centre of the town, such as Wyndham Street, Hollywood Road, &c. Not less than seven premises are infected. Every night, too, from Des Voeux Road to the Clock Tower very disagreeable scenes may be observed, constituting a grave breach of peace and decency.

Perhaps His Excellency Sir F. Lugard will call the attention of the police to this epidemic and order the premises to be closed and the traffic stopped as soon as possible.—Yours etc.

PUDIOUS.

PASTEURIZED AMSTEL PILSENER BEER.

SPECIALLY PASTEURIZED FOR USE IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES.

VERY LIGHT, EXCEEDINGLY PALATABLE, REFRESHING AND WHOLESOME.

You will reject other beers when once you try this.

Per Case 4 Dozen Quarts	$16.50
" 6 " Pints	16.50
" Dozen Quarts	4.15
" " Pints	2.75

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SPORTING.

Cricket.

The Craigengower v. Army Staff match which was to have taken place to-morrow has been cancelled.

League Cricket.

FIXTURES FOR TO-MORROW.

Engineers	v.	Police
Hongkong "A"	v.	Civil Service
Hongkong "B"	v.	Telegraphs
Kowloon	v.	R.G.A.

CIVIL SERVICE v. HONGKONG "A"

The following will represent the Civil Service Club in the above match on the Service ground at 2 p.m., on Saturday next:—R. O. Hutchison (Captain.); F. A. Biden, R. E. O. Bird, L. E. Brett, H. Ellis, J. McEwen, H. R. Phelips, A. R. F. Raven, E. B. Reed, A. R. Sutherland, and R. C. Witchell. Reserves:—A. G. Pile and F. Sutton.

HONGKONG "A" v. CIVIL SERVICE.

The following will represent the Hongkong "A" team against the Civil Service on the ground of the latter on Saturday, commencing at 2.15 p.m. W. C. D. Turner, H. R. Makin, Lt. E. J. H. Haughton, Rev. H. W. Maundrell, R.N., Flag Lieut. H. B. Mullenaux, R.N., A. P. Dashwood, E. A. Fowler, Lt. J. Edgell, R.N., W. Waterhouse, E. Irving and A. N. other.

HONGKONG "B" v. TELEGRAPHS.

The following have been selected to represent the "B" eleven on Saturday, on the ground of the former, commencing at 2.15 p.m.:—R. Hancock, H. Hancock, T. E. Pearce, S. Moore, S. S. Logan, H. D. Sharpin, P. Jacks, W. E. L. Shenton, A. O. Lang, A. A. Claxton and W. J. Daniel.

The League Table remains unchanged.

Yachting.

The yacht owners of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club will hold an At Home at the Club House on Saturday afternoon when the band of the Buffs will be in attendance. Racing commences at 3 p.m.

League Football.

BOYS OWN CLUB v. NAVAL YARD.

The B.O.C. will meet the Naval Yard on the Military ground at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday. The following will represent the B.O.C.—Khan Abbas, Wilson, Cordiers, Chunyut, Chew, Goldenberg, Parslow, Abbas Blakemore, Fistabag, Jex, Musket.

Football Notes.

By the time another issue of the *China Mail* makes its appearance we shall practically know who are to have the honour of holding the Hongkong Challenge Shield for the season 1908-9. And what a series of strenuous battles the Competition has produced this year! Football has begun to enjoy a wave of decided popularity in the Colony, and next season, with the advent of the new Association, we may look for big things. There is no doubt that for the Association code the outlook was never more rosy than at present.

As was expected, the contest between the Buffs and the Bluejackets from the Kent was of the vigorous order. There were plenty of those thrilling dashes in which the ardent spectator so keenly delights, although it has to be recorded that, in the second half particularly, there was a raggedness about the play which hardly smacked of semi-finalists' form. With the score against them and the duty of defence always to be discharged, the sailors might be partially excused of this on the ground of excitement. But for the Buffs the circumstances were all in their favour, and a steadiness on the part of the front rank would have meant all the difference when the score came to be reckoned up.

The Kent's were, to my mind, quite as good as their opponents in the opening half. Chances were indeed missed by both sides, but no one could have reasonably complained had the interval arrived with the teams on a level footing. True, the point which Barker put on was worthily obtained and was quite the choicest incident in the whole game. One cannot begrudge the Buffs this goal; all that was wanting was a response to it by the Tars, which would only have been their due. Up to this stage there was no reason for grumbling at the fare served up.

But after the interval it was otherwise. The Buffs practically took the game in hand in so far as they monopolised the attack, but this was about all they did. Again and again openings came along, only to be allowed to go a-begging. The work of the forwards was the opposite of inspiring, any one can only assume that they were content to rest on their oars, having obtained the lead. Need I remind them that this sort of thing won't do to-morrow? Then they will have to go all the way to win: there must be no suspension of effort if the desired end is to be attained. On the run of play the soldiers certainly were the better side on Monday, and the margin of merit between the teams was certainly greater than I had anticipated. The Kent's did not come up to my expectations.

Who's to win to-morrow? I'm afraid I can't say. There are circumstances which might be quoted as grounds for supporting the chances of either side. In view of their good all-round record, popular opinion seems centred on the likelihood of the Buffs coming out on top. But while there may be excellent reasons for holding that view, there is another side to the question. Personally I should not be surprised if a re-play became necessary.

LINESMAN.

The *Birmingham Post* states that it is settled that General Sir O'Moore Creagh will succeed Lord Kitchener. General Creagh was in command at Shanghai during the Boxer troubles.

DANGERS OF INFLUENZA.

THE great danger of influenza is of its resulting in pneumonia. This can be obviated by using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It not only cures influenza but counteracts any tendency of the disease towards pneumonia. For sale by all Chemists and storekeepers.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, at the Legislative Council meeting on Thursday afternoon, made an exhaustive statement on the opium question.

His Excellency said—Gentlemen, I rise to make a statement on the subject of the opium question, concerning which a paper has been laid on the table to-day, and which I promised the Council to make on as early a date as possible. It was on May 14th last that the hon. member who at that time represented the Chamber of Commerce on this Council asked me several questions with regard to telegrams which had appeared in the local Press announcing that His Majesty's Government had stated in Parliament that all opium divans were to be closed forthwith. I read the telegram which I had received from the Secretary of State and I informed the hon. member that I had sent a long confidential telegram in reply explaining very fully the difficulties which such a course would involve, and asking the Secretary of State to defer any final decision until he had received a despatch from me on the subject. On May 28th the same hon. member brought forward a resolution in this Council, and he supported it in a long and able speech in which he criticised the action of His Majesty's Government. The resolution was supported by all the unofficial members of the Council. I informed them that I would forward a copy of the debate to the Secretary of State; and I said that I had myself confidence that when the Secretary of State received my despatch he would not act in any precipitate manner, but would take into consideration the difficulties which I pointed out. As soon as I received the telegram on the 7th May, we took steps to ascertain the effect upon the revenue of the Colony if all the divans were at once closed. The Opium Farmer showed great confidence in the fair dealing of the Government and a broad spirit in allowing his private books to be thoroughly examined. This task I confided to Mr Clementi, who conducted it in an exceedingly able and exhaustive way. I think there are few Europeans in this Colony who would have been competent to conduct such a task and carry it through in such time and collect such a mass of valuable material as he did (applause), and the Government is very much indebted for the stupendous and exhaustive task which he undertook. One result of the examination was to show that the charges which have from time to time been made against the Opium Farmer here of smuggling opium into China have no apparent foundation in fact, and the farmer therefore benefited by his straightforward action in allowing his books to be fully inspected by Government. The further investigation was entrusted to Mr Hutchison into the conditions and statistics of the divans of the Colony. These investigations were completed in the months of June and July. Early in June I received a copy of the Home Hansard giving a full account of the debate of May 7th, and it was then evident that the Secretary of State had in point of fact stated that it was the policy of his Majesty's Government that all divans should be forthwith closed. I wrote at once on June 13th to the Secretary of State, urging some delay. I suggested that half the divans should be closed in March 1909, and the remaining half should be closed in March 1910, not till the contract of the Opium Farmer should expire. I pointed out to him that the immediate closure of the divans would involve the Government in a very heavy claim for compensation, a moral claim if not a legal one for compensation to the Opium Farmer as well as the other divan keepers whose licenses I was unable to cancel except for breach of their conditions until they should expire, unless by special legislation. My object was to gain time, for I could not ignore the orders which had been communicated to me by the Secretary of State over a month previously. There was a further debate in the House of Commons on July 28th. The Secretary of State had at that time received my despatch of June 13th, and when he pledged His Majesty's Government "to act on the advice they had recently obtained and would obtain from the Governor of Hongkong" he supposed I was prepared to recommend that half the number of the divans should be closed in March 1909 and half in March 1910. As a matter of fact, I had never intended to advise that course. My intention had been limited to urging it as a reprieve of the immediate abolition to which I did not see my way to give effect. Following the debate in the Home Parliament the Hon. Mr Stewart on September 24th moved a second resolution in this Council condemning the reasons which had been given by the Under Secretary of State in the House in support of the policy of His Majesty's Government, and in a long and able speech he subjected the policy of the Home Government to very severe criticism. I said in reply that the Under Secretary of State had hoped that the best opinion in Hongkong and the opinion of the Governor would be found to coincide with the measures proposed. It was on the same day, September 24th, that I introduced the Estimates for the year to the Council, and I told hon. members that no provision had been made in those estimates to meet any expenditure as to compensation to the Opium Farmer or the opium divan keepers, or to meet any decrease in revenue which might result from any measures taken with regard to the Opium Farmer. I did so in the first place because no finality had been reached in the question, and in the second place because the estimates already showed a deficit of $72,000 and there was no money at my disposal with which to make provision, I added that if, consequential on the policy of the Home Government, it should be necessary to make any further taxation, hon. members would have full opportunity of debating the whole question when the proposals for new taxation were laid before the Council. The general position as regards the finances of the Colony, as I explained on that occasion were extremely disheartening, owing partly to the large expenditure on the railway, partly to the great loss on exchange, as well as to many other causes. The year 1908 showed a deficit estimated at about 6½ lacs, which reduced our reserves from one and a half million to about nine lacs, and we should have had a deficit of nearly five lacs to provide in the current year had it not been for the fortuitous windfall created by taking over the Widows and Orphans Fund amounting to four and a half lacs, which we must regard as a loan to carry us over our difficulties. Meanwhile no action had been taken with regard to closing the divans because on the one hand I was waiting for the Secretary of State to reply to my despatch, and I was also waiting for the reports of Messrs Clementi and Hutchison, and I desired to have more precise information as to the financial position of the Colony. In the meantime I took the opportunity of very carefully studying the question, and I prepared a memorandum with the object of showing first of all that Hongkong had not been so apathetic and indifferent as it had been presented in the House of Commons by Messrs Taylor and Johnson; and secondly with a view to representing the "reasoned opinion" which the Under Secretary of State had asked for in his speech in the House. I based the memorandum largely on the reports of Messrs Clementi and Hutchison regarding the working of the farm and the condition and statistics of the divans. These reports and the financial statistics were available in about the month of August, but the pressure which hon. members know is generally involved in the preparation of the annual estimates together with the work of verification of references in regard to the memorandum, took some little time. It was not until October that I was able to submit the memorandum to the Secretary of State, together with the despatch in which I submitted proposals for giving effect to the policy which His Majesty's Government had announced. I telegraphed on October 23rd asking the Secretary of State to cancel my former despatch, and to await the arrival of one I was then submitting. I desire, with regard to this, to explain to the Council that the proposals involved a very considerable modification of the declared policy of His Majesty's Government. I was for that reason unable to lay them before this Council until I knew what the attitude of the Secretary of State would be towards them. They were very fully discussed in the Executive Council. I requested the Secretary of State to permit me at as early a date as possible to communicate to this Council the action which has been taken in this matter, which so vitally affected the finances of the Colony. The proposals which that despatch contained I will summarise as follows. In the first place, that steps should be taken to diminish the available supply of opium for consumption in Hongkong proportionately to the decrease in the export from India, and in the production in and the export from China. This decrease being progressive in accordance with the programme put forward by the Chinese Government would lead to the total cessation of the supply in ten years, supposing that within the same period China has ceased to produce and export opium. To this end I suggested that for the remaining year of the present contract the maximum number of chests which the farmer is entitled to purchase should be reduced from 1300 to 1200 a proposal to which he was willing to agree without claiming compensation provided that divans were not abolished, and that in the new contract it should be further reduced to 900 (which is about the average consumption of the last few years) with a progressive decrease in each succeeding contract, so long as the Indian Government follows a similar policy with regard to its exports. In the second place I suggested some further restrictions upon the farmer in the new cotract with a view to the more effective control of his operations. I also informed the Secretary of State of the increasing use of morphia and of opium compounds in the form of pills, and of hypodermic injections of morphia, and I explained to him the efficacy of the Hongkong legislation in regard to these. I told him we had it under consideration still further to increase these restrictive measures by legislation. With regard to divans I gave it as my own opinion that they form in this Colony a useful means of control. I explained their nature, which I believed not to be fully appreciated in England, and I said that I had fears lest their entire abolition might demoralise domestic life by compelling smokers to smoke in their women's quarters and by extending the influence of bad example. Finally I informed Lord Crewe of the financial condition of the Colony, and that in that year, 1908, we had a deficit of six lacs, with a further deficit of five lacs in 1909. I pointed out that in addition to this the grave situation of the public finances was further aggravated by personal losses due to typhoons, the fall in the rate of exchange, and also to the heavy trade depression which has weighed upon the Colony for the last few years. I described the negotiations undertaken with the farmer, and I estimated the total abolition of the divans would cost this Colony upwards of five lacs of dollars. I added finally that in the present condition of the Colony it was practically impossible to meet any loss unless his Majesty's Government saw their way to make a grant for the purpose. Although these proposals were in point of fact inconsistent with the declared policy of His Majesty's Government, they provided in substitution of that policy, a means of restriction which I, for my own part, considered to be at least equal, and perhaps more effective. (Hear, hear). I asked the Secretary of State to reconsider by the light of the opinion which I gave him, and having regard to the financial position of the Colony, the decision at which the House of Commons had arrived. The Secretary of State informed me that His Majesty's Government had pledged themselves in Parliament that they would not recede from the policy of abolishing the opium divans in Hongkong as soon as may be, and to that pledge they would steadfastly adhere. At the same time His Majesty's Government recognised that there were grave difficulties in the way of immediate action to as great an extent as they would desire. The Secretary of State acknowledged that I had brought forward weighty arguments to illustrate both the possible dangers attending precipitate action, and also the degree to which effective measures in Hongkong must be dependent on the course of events on the mainland. He said that the Conference at Shanghai would afford fuller information to Government as to what has actually been accomplished in China in the direction of closing divans, and limiting the production of opium, and would furnish valuable suggestions for treatment of the question as a whole. The Secretary of State added.

"Taking all these circumstances into account, and influenced by their strong desire not to impose an undue burden on the Colony, His Majesty's Government are prepared to proceed gradually in the course which they have decided to adopt, and while arranging for the immediate reduction to defer the final and total abolition until after March 1910. By that time the existing opium farms will have expired, and the difficulties arising from the contract with the Farmer will no longer present themselves, while the intervening period will allow time for the receipt and due consideration of the Commissioners' recommendations. But it is necessary that steps should be taken forthwith towards carrying out the policy to which His Majesty's Government are pledged. I have been in telegraphic communication with you on this aspect of the question, and I learn that as the result of discussion with the Farmer you will be able to arrange, without giving rise to a claim from him for compensation, that the maximum amount of opium which he is permitted to prepare for local consumption shall be reduced to 1000 chests during the last year of the farm, and that 26 divan licences shall be extinguished forthwith, as they expire. Whatever compensation may be found to be equitably due to the holders of these licences will be provided from Colonial revenues. His Majesty's Government have decided, under all the circumstances of the case, to accept these proposals as a first step in the realisation of their aims and as an earnest of the future co-operation of the Colony. It would be premature to discuss, on this occasion, the arrangements which will come into force in March 1910. I shall doubtless hear further from you on the subject in due course, and I need only remark here that His Majesty's Government cannot admit the possibility of any divan licences remaining in force after that date, and that in framing any recommendations you may submit, you should be governed by this consideration. His Majesty's Government recognise that as a result of giving effect to their policy the Colonial revenue must suffer a loss which it would be impossible for the local Government wholly to replace. The amount of that loss cannot be estimated until the conditions which will obtain after March 1910 are known with some degree of accuracy, but when the time arrives His Majesty's Government on their part will be prepared to ask Parliament to give a substantial contribution towards making good to the Colony the revenue which it is found to have lost as the direct result of measures adopted under their instructions." (Hear, hear). The final result therefore gentlemen, is that 26 licences were not renewed on March 1st last. There may possibly be some small compensation for goodwill, but it will be quite a small sum. No compensation is asked for by the farmer for any steps which are now being taken, and there is no other cost or loss which falls within the present year. The next contract will have to be issued under some restrictions as to the amount of opium which may be brought into the Colony and the number of divans which will be allowed. There will also be some minor restictions regarding control of the farm, and it is probable that under these circumstances the tender for the next farm will be somewhat lower than the amount paid by the present one, but we have the promise of His Majesty's Government to give us a substantial contribution towards meeting any loss which may occur, through the direct result of the measures prescribed by the Imperial Government. I have always felt certain that on receipt of information regarding local conditions, the Imperial Government would on the one hand decide that precipitate action would be impossible, and on the other hand deal justly and generously with the Colony. I am glad that both of these anticipations have been realised. (Applause). The Secretary of State adds in his despatch the following words, "I have read with regret the observations in the Legislative Council which you have brought to my notice. The supposition that His Majesty's Government have acted with indifference to the views and interests of the inhabitants of Hongkong is entirely erroneous. It is a matter of much concern to me that, at the moment when this question assumed an acute form, the Colony should be suffering from an interruption of its prosperity which, though (as I hope and believe) it is only transient, has materially increased the difficulties of the position. His Majesty's Government have been unable to see that they had any option in the matter, for the growth and strength of the movement in China have rendered it impossible that they should abstain from corresponding action in British territory for which they are responsible. I shall be slow to believe that public opinion in Hongkong can be permanently at variance with that of this country on such a question, and I must ask you, and the community over which you preside, to accept the assurance that the policy with His Majesty's Government have adopted has been dictated by paramount considerations of their duty to civilization." I have spoken, gentlemen, at some length as the seriousness of the matter demands. I have not laid the whole of the despatches on the table, in the first place, because they are very lengthy, and in the second place, as Council will realise, they contain matter which it would be inadvisable to put in a State paper. I have, however, given you their purport very fully, and I quoted everything from my own despatches which it was necessary for a full understanding of this matter, and as for the Secretary of State's despatch I have for the most part quoted *ipissima verba* in all essential particulars. The memorandum which I have laid on the table to-day has been largely re-written in order to omit all passages based on confidential information, or which might give umbrage to other Powers. It contains some matters which I hope members of Council will find of interest in perusing. (Applause.)

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Hongkong, February 25, 1909. 389

President Taft's cabinet is composed as follows:—Philander Knox, Secretary of State; Franklin McVeagh, Secretary of the Treasury; Jacob Dickinson, Secretary of War; George von L. Meyer, Secretary of the Navy; Richard Ballinger, Secretary of the Interior; James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture; Charles Nagel, Secretary of Commerce and Labor; George Wickersham, Attorney General; and Frank Hitchcock, Postmaster General.

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A STRANGE FATAL ACCIDENT.

Particulars of a remarkable fatal accident were told at an inquiry held this afternoon before Mr J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner, and a jury consisting of Messrs J. W. Taylor, K. S. Morrison, and E. R. Thomas, into the circumstances attending the death of a Chinese constable stationed at San Tin, in the New Territory. From the evidence it seems that on February 25th at about 9 a.m. deceased was found lying on the floor with a bullet-wound over his left eye, while a revolver in a leather case, the end of which was blown out, was found near at hand. From this, and the fact that there was a mark on the leather case giving evidence of it having fallen to the ground, it was assumed that the weapon, while in the case, fell out of the hand of deceased, who, in stooping to pick it up, received the the bullet in the forehead. He was in an unconscious state, and was removed to the Government Hospital, where he died the day following.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned and the jury added a rider that there should be regular Government inspection made of constable's private revolvers.

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KUMERIC	6232	F. S. Cowley	8th April.
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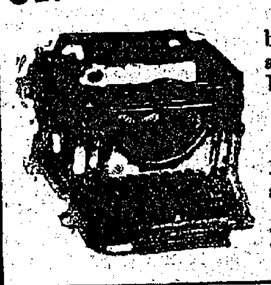
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FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS.
SHANGHAI.....	DELHI ..... Capt. J.D. ANDREWS, R.N.R.	About 19th Mar., 1909.	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, VIA USUAL PORTS	MACEDONIA..... Capt. C. D. BENNETT, R.N.R.	Noon, 20th Mar., 1909.	*See Special Advertisement*
LONDON & ANTWERP, VIA S'POEE, P'ANG, CL'BO, PORT SAID & MARSEILLES	PALAWAN ..... Capt. C.R. LONGDEN, R.N.R.	About 24th March ,, ,,	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, NAGASAKI AND YOKOHAMA	NUBIA..... Capt. F. J. FOX.....	About 27th Mar., 1909.	Freight and Passage.

E. A. HEWETT, *Superintendent.*

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'EMPRESS LINE.'

Between China, Japan and Europe, via Canada and the United States, calling at Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki (through the Inland Sea of Japan) Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, and Vancouver, B.C.

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'EMPRESS OF JAPAN' SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH.	'EMPRESS OF IRELAND' FRIDAY, MAY 7TH.
'EMPRESS OF CHINA' SATURDAY, MAY 1ST.	AL LAN LINE..... FRIDAY, MAY 28TH.
'MONTEAGLE' TUESDAY, MAY 11TH.	
'EMPRESS OF INDIA' SATURDAY, MAY 22ND.	'EMPRESS OF BRITAIN' FRIDAY, JUNE 18,

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FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE, Via SUEZ CANAL.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN, Via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAIN	TO SAIL, 1909.
SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA	CALEDONIEN,	BRUNO.	March 15, p.m.
MARSEILLES, Via PORTS...	TOURANE,	LANCELIN.	March 16, at 1 p.m.
SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA	ERNEST SIMONS,	GIRARD.	March 29, p.m.
MARSEILLES, Via PORTS	NERA,	MARTIN.	March 30. at 1 p.m.

TRANSHIPPING on the Co.'s Steamers at SINGAPORE for BATAVIA, at COLOMBO for CALCUTTA, BOMBAY and AUSTRALIA, at PORT SAID for the LEVANTE, CONSTANTINOPLE and BLACK SEA.

Through Tickets to LONDON, via PARIS, from £27.10 up to £71.10. 20 hours railway from MARSEILLES to LONDON. Interpreters meet passengers on their arrival in Marseilles.

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IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL, 1909.
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP & HAMBURG	KLEIST, Capt. Rud Meyer,	WEDNESDAY, 24th March, at Noon.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA ...	PRINZ LUDWIG, Capt. Fy. Binzer.	About SATURDAY, 13th March.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.....	PRINZ WALDEMAR, Capt. Iseld.	THURSDAY, 25th Mar., at 5 p.m.
KUDAT AND SANDAKAN	BORNEO, Capt. F. Nembill.	Beginnig of April.

For further Particulars, apply to

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Only line taking the warm SOUTHERN ROUTE across the PACIFIC, via HONOLULU, on OAHU, the most fertile and beautiful island of the PACIFIC.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

STEAMERS.		SAILING DATES. 1909.
ASIA	9,500 Tons.....TUESDAY,	16th Mar., at Noon.
* MONGOLIA	27,000 ,, ...SATURDAY,	27th Mar., at Noon.
† TENYO MARU	21,000 ,, ...TUESDAY,	6th April, at Noon.
* KOREA	16,000 ,, ...TUESDAY,	13th April, at Noon.
* NIPPON MARU	16,000 ,, ...SATURDAY,	24th April, at Noon.
* SIBERIA	16,000 ,, ...TUESDAY,	4th May, at Noon.
CHINA	10,200 ,, ...TUESDAY,	11th May, at Noon.
* MANCHURIA	27,000 ,, ...TUESDAY,	18th May, at Noon.
† CHIYO MARU	21,000 ,, ...SATURDAY,	22nd May, at Noon.

* Twin Screws. † Triple Screw Steamer.

Fares: Hongkong to London £71. 10. 0, including Berth and Meals across America.

INTERMEDIATE SERVICE.

The fine Mail Steamers ASIA and CHINA carry Intermediate passengers only, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Asia	9,500 Tons	TUESDAY,	16th March,	at Noon.
China	10,200 ,,	,,	11th May,	at Noon.
Asia	9,500 ,,	FRIDAY,	4th June,	at Noon.
China.....	10,200 ,,	TUESDAY,	27th July,	at Noon.

Hongkong to London { via Canadian Atlantic Ports ...£43. via New York .....£45.

SPECIAL RATES (first class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Services of the China and Japan Governments.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, North, Central and South American Ports.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Companies, KING'S BUILDING (opposite Blake Pier).

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EXTRA PASSENGER SERVICE NEW STEAMERS—EUROPEAN LINE.

FOR GENOA, MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP, VIA SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

THE Company's Newly Built 9000 Tons Passenger Steamers will be despatched from Hongkong as follows:—

Atsuta Maru - (Capt. W. THOMPSEN) About Wed., 7th April.
Miyasaki Maru (Capt. W. BAINBRIDGE) About Wed., 5th May.
Kitano Maru - (Capt. ——) About Wed., 2nd June.
Hirano Maru - (Capt. H. FRASER) About Wed., 30th June.

CHEAPEST PASSAGE RATES TO EUROPE AND AROUND-THE-WORLD.

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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, December 30, 1908. 1748



NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.)

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATIONS.	STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES, 1909.
MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP, Via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.....	TAMBA MARU, Capt. C. H. Butler, Tons 6134	WEDNESDAY, 17th March, at Daylight.
	INABA MARU, Capt. R. Takeda, Tons 6189	WEDNESDAY, 31st March, at Daylight.
VICTORIA, B.C., AND SEATTLE, Via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI AND YOKOHAMA	§ TOSA MARU, Capt. T. Harrison, Tons 5827	TUESDAY, 16th March, at Noon.
	§ SHINANO MARU, Capt. K. Kawara, Tons 6388	TUESDAY, 30th March, at Noon.
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, Via MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE AND BRISBANE.	NIKKO MARU, Capt. M. Yagi, Tons 5539	FRIDAY, 19th Mar., at Noon.
	KUMANO MARU, Capt. N. Mathieson, Tons 5078	FRIDAY, 16th April, at Noon.
KOBE.....	‡ TOTOMI MARU, Capt. R. Smith, Tons 3412	SATURDAY, 13th March.
NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA	KUMANO MARU, Capt. N. Mathieson, Tons 5078	WEDNESDAY, 17th Mar., at Daylight.
BOMBAY, Via SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.	YEBOSHI MARU, Capt. B. Kon, Tons 3788	THURSDAY, 18th March.
KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.....	KANAGAWA MARU, Capt. N. Ohno, Tons 6169	SATURDAY, 20th Mar., at Daylight.

* Omitting Yokaichi. ‡ Cargo only.
§ Fitted with Marconi's System of wireless telegraphy.
† Through Passenger Tickets issued to the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers. Round-the-World Tickets also issued. Between Nagasaki travelling by Rail.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office in Prince's Buildings, First Floor, Chater Road.

T. KUSUMOTO, *Manager.*

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MIYASAKI & CO., COAL MERCHANTS.

HEAD OFFICE:—SAKAYEMACHI, KOBE, JAPAN.
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TELEPHONE 734. 4th Floor, No 2 CONNAUGHT ROAD.

Hongkong, November 2, 1908.

ISLAND ANNEXED BY GREAT BRITAIN.

According to an Australian exchange, Oeno Island, in the Low Archipelago, has recently been annexed by Great Britain, much to the displeasure of the French Colonists in New Caledonia and elsewhere. It appears, says the *Sydney Telegraph*, that Mr R. T. Simons, the British Consul at Tahiti, was responsible for the annexation, but whether he was acting under authority from the Imperial Government has not transpired. Oeno Island was discovered by Captain Henderson in the Hercules, but its name is derived from a whale ship, the commander of which thought it a new discovery. It is so low that it can only be seen at a short distance, and therefore is highly dangerous.

The only attraction which Oeno Island presents is its rich guano deposits, and it is evidently on account of these that the place has been annexed. A notification in the official gazette published in Tahiti, signed by the British Consul, and countersigned by the French Governor, warns the public that Henderson or Elizabeth Island, Ducie Island, and Oeno Island—all British possessions—have been leased, and that in consequence no one will be permitted to land there without authority from the British Consulate.

NAVAL PENSIONER EMIGRATION.

The question of allowing naval pensioners to commute under certain conditions and start life anew in the colonies is attracting a good deal of attention just now, says the *Globe*, and it would not be surprising to find some concessions being made in this direction by the Admiralty at no distant date. It is not a question to be settled off-hand, however, as some civilians seem to suppose, for the naval pensioners form an important part of the Royal Fleet Reserve, for some years after they first leave the service, and Naval Reserves may be wanted quickly if war should break out. Since so many of our seagoing fleets are now tethered to home waters and the near seas, in the present state of the world's naval equilibrium, and only small cruiser squadrons are for the most part kept abroad, the Royal Fleet Reserve men and Royal Naval Reserve men would be wanted at home ports rather than on foreign stations for naval work. In the old days our fleets were more evenly distributed over all parts of the world, and men could usefully rejoin for service in almost any part of the globe. But this state of things has passed away, and the question of allowing naval pensioners—especially the youngest among them—to emigrate to distant colonies has become a more difficult one, as regards their rejoining the colours at the spot where their services would most be required in time of war. Any scheme of pensioner emigration would therefore, naturally have to be worked out very carefully as any period of warning before war is declared may be extremely short, and our reserves would need to be comparatively handy for service.

THE - - -

HONGKONG -

DOCKS. - -

A Record of the Founding and Development of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited.

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'A HISTORY OF UNION CHURCH.'

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Shipping.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
* MANILA	LOONGSANG ...FRIDAY,	March 19, at 4 P.M.
† SHANGHAI.....	HANGSANG ...TUESDAY,	March 16, at Noon.
*† SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOJI	FOOKSANG... TUESDAY,	March 23, at Noon.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN. Occupying 24 days.

THE steamers *Kutsang*, *Namsang* and *Fooksang* leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama, returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light. A duly qualified Surgeon is also carried.

* Steamers have superior Accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

† Taking Cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Yangtsze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

For Freight or Passage, apply to Telephone No. 81.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.

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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
AMOY, SHANGHAI & CHINKIANG	TIENTSIN	March 13, Daylight.
SHANGHAI	CHENAN	March 14, Daylight.
HAIPHONG	SINGAN	March 16, at 10 a.m.
MANILA.....	TAHING	March 16, at 3 p.m.
NEWCHWANG	KWEIYANG	March 16, at 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI	LINAN	March 18, at 4 p.m.
MANILA.....	TSAN	March 23, at 3 p.m.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PT. DARWIN THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, with transhipment for TASMANIA, NEW ZEALAND, ADELAIDE, FREMANTLE & PERTH	CHANGSHA	April 8, at 4 p.m.

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S.S. 'LINTAN' and S.S. 'SANUI.'

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MANILA STEAMERS & TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

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SCHEDULE STEAMERS leaving every Thursday and Sunday have excellent accommodation. Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in Staterooms and Dining Saloon. Fare—$40.00 single and $70.00 return. Take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtsze and Northern China Ports.

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HIGHEST-Class, Fastest and most luxurious Steamers on the Coast, having splendid Accommodation for First-Class Passengers. Electric Light and First-Class Cuisine.

STEAMSHIP	FOR.	LEAVING
HAITAN, ... Capt. J. S. Roach,	SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW.	FRIDAY, 12th Mar., at Noon.
HAIMUN ..... Capt. J. W. Evans	SWATOW.	SUNDAY, 14th Mar., at 10 a.m.
HAIYANG ..... Capt. A.E. Hodgins	SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW.	TUESDAY, 16th Mar., at Noon.

For the convenience of Passengers, Steamers will arrive at, and depart from, the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

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DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, November 17, 1908. 1566



OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

REGULAR STEAM-SHIP SERVICE TWEEN HONGKONG, SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS AND FORMOSA

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

THE CO.'S S.S.	FOR	LEAVING
* *JOSHIN MARU*, Capt. H. MURAYAMA,	TAMSUI, Via SWATOW AND AMOY.	SUNDAY, 14th Feb., at 9 a.m.
* *SHOSHU MARU*, Capt. ISHII,	ANPING, Via SWATOW, AND AMOY.	WEDNESDAY, 17th Mar., at 8 a.m.
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T. ARIMA, *Manager.*

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HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE, HAMBURG.

FAST-ASIATIC FREIGHT SERVICE.

REGULAR SAILINGS FROM JAPAN, CHINA AND PHILIPPINES VIA STRAITS AND COLOMBO, To HAVRE, BREMEN AND HAMBURG, AND TO NEW YORK.

TAKING Cargo at through Rates to all European, North Continental and British Ports, also Trieste, Lisbon, Oporto, Marseilles, Genoa, and other Mediterranean, Levantine, Black Sea and Baltic Ports,
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S.S. BELGRAVIA .....31st Mar.	For Rotterdam and Hamburg
S.S. SILESIA .....12th April.	S.S. DORTMUND .....23rd Mar.
S.S. SUEVIA .....16th April.	For Havre & Hamburg
S.S. SCANDIA .....27th April.	S.S. JLLYRIA ..... 5th April.
S.S. SENEGAMBIA.....10th May.	

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Hongkong, February 26, 1909.

Shipping.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

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TAKING PASSENGERS ALSO FOR

COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, BRINDISI, &c.

THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED TO BOSTON AND NEW YORK.

STEAMERS to COLOMBO		Leave HONGKONG	Connecting Steamers from COLOMBO to MARSEILLES & LONDON		Due at MARSEILLES (Brindisi 2days earlier)	Due at PLYMOUTH (London 1 day later)
	TONS	Noon Sat'day 1909		TONS	Saturday, 1909	Saturday, 1909
MACEDONIA	10500	Mar. 20				
DELHI	8000	April 3	MALWA	11000	April 17	April 24
DEVANHA	8000	April 17	MONGOLIA	10000	May 1	May 8
ASSAYE	7500	May 1	MARMORA	10500	May 15	May 22
DELTA	8000	May 15	INDIA	8000	May 29	June 4
OCEANA	7000	May 29	VICTORIA	8500	June 13	June 18
DELHI	8000	June 12	MOOLTAN	10000	June 27	July 3
					July 11	July 16

Passengers change steamers at COLOMBO, and those for BRINDISI transfer also to the EXPRESS Mail Steamer at PORT SAID.

Accommodation in the connecting steamer from COLOMBO is arranged in Hongkong at time of booking.

In addition to the above Mail Steamers the following :—

INTERMEDIATE (NON-TRANSHIPMENT) STEAMERS WILL LEAVE FOR

LONDON,

CARRYING SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

STEAMERS.	TONNAGE	Leave HONGKONG about		Due at LONDON about	
* PALAWAN	5000	March	24	May	9
* SUMATRA	5000	April	12	May	27
* PALMA	8000	April	21	June	5
* NUBIA	6000	May	5	June	19
PERA	8000	May	19	July	3
* SOMALI	7000	June	2	July	17

These Steamers call also at Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and at Malta or Marseilles.

* Carry 1st and 2nd Saloon Passengers.

For further particulars, Apply to

E. A. HEWETT, *Superintendent.*

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THE EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.



MAIL SERVICE. TO AUSTRALIA.

MAIL SCHEDULE.

(SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION).

STEAMERS	ARRIVE HONGKONG FROM AUSTRALIA.	LEAVE HONGKONG FOR AUSTRALIA.
EMPIRE	April 5.	31st March, at Noon.
EASTERN	May 3.	28th April, at Noon.
ALDENHAM		26th May, at Noon.

THE above Steamers are fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and are lighted throughout with Electricity. All State-Rooms have Electric Fans. A duly qualified Doctor and Stewardess are carried.

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Hongkong, November 2, 1908. 1497

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Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships.—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—**Surgeon** and **Stewardess** carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	*Tons.*	*Captains.*	*For*	*Sailing Dates.*
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	Manila	SATURDAY, Mar. 13, at Noon.
RUBI	2540	R. W. Almond.	Manila	Mar. 20, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN

JAVA, CHINA AND JAPAN.

STEAMER	FROM	EXPECTED ON OR ABOUT	WILL LEAVE FOR	ON OR ABOUT
TJIBODAS	JAPAN	First half of March.	JAPAN	Second half of March.
TJIMAHI	JAVA	Second half of March.	AMOY	Do.
TJILATJAP	JAVA	Do.	SHANGHAI	Do.
TJILIWONG	JAPAN	First half of April.	JAVA	First half of April.
TJIPANAS	JAVA	Do.	SHANGHAI	Do.
TJIKINI	JAPAN	Second half of Apr	JAVA	Second half of April.

THE Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands-Indian ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to the

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

WORK BUILDINGS, 1st Floor. TELEPHONE No. 275. 1307

Shipping.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

S.S. 'MACEDONIA,

10,500 tons,

CAPTAIN C. D. BENNETT, R.N.R.

THIS THROUGH MAIL STEAMER FOR

MARSEILLES AND LONDON, Via BOMBAY,

WILL leave Hongkong on **MARCH 20th, 1909,** staying at Bombay 24 hours only and is due to arrive at :—

MARSEILLES... ... ...April 17th.
LONDON... ... ...April 24th.

FARES TO LONDON:—

1ST Saloon.....£71.10 Single. £106.14 Return.
2ND " .....£48.8 " £ 72.12 "

For further Particulars apply to

E. A. HEWETT, *Superintendent.*

Hongkong, November 25, 1908. 1599

PORTLAND & ASIATIC S.S. CO.

FOR MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO and PORTLAND.

OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH THE OREGON RAILROAD & NAVIGATION CO.

STEAMSHIP	TONS	CAPTAIN	TO SAIL ON 1909.
ALESIA	5167	JOHN ERNST	About March 20th.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points and all Eastern, Canadian and United States Points. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate with or apply to

S. SILVERSTONE, *Agent.*

2

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANÇAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship CALEDONIEN, Captain BRUNO, will be despatched for the above ports on or about TUESDAY, the 16th March.

P. DE CHAMPMORIN, *Agent.*

Hongkong, March 9, 1909. 341

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Steamship *MACEDONIA*, Captain C. D. BENNETT, R.N.R., carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for LONDON direct calling at BOMBAY for Passengers and Mails, on SATURDAY, the 20th March, 1909, at NOON, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above ports.

Silk and Valuables only will be accepted for Bombay.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 p.m. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, *Superintendent.*

Hongkong, March 8, 1909. 337

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR FIUME and TRIESTE Direct, Calling at SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, KARACHI, ADEN, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to the BRAZILS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LEVANT, VENICE AND ADRIATIC PORTS.

THE Company's Steamship VORWAERTS, Captain BEDNARZ, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 24th inst.

This Steamer has splendid accommodation for passengers, Electric Light and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

For information as to Passage and Freight, apply to

SANDER, WIELER & CO., *Agents,* Prince's Buildings.

Hongkong, March 3, 1909. 312

FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship FLINTSHIRE, will be despatched as above on or about FRIDAY, the 26th March.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LTD., *Agents.*

Hongkong, February 23, 1909. 273

'SHIRE' LINE OF STEAMERS, LIMITED.

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship GLAMORGANSHIRE, will be despatched as above about 10th April.

For Freight, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LTD., *Agents.*

Hongkong, March 5, 1909. 333

Notice to Consignees

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.'S STEAMER *SUMATRA.*

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at *their risk* in the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY'S Godowns at Kowloon where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 Hours.

Goods not cleared by the 18th inst., at 4 p.m., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Company's representative at an appointed hour. All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT, *Superintendent.*

Hongkong, March 11, 1909. 348

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship PRINZ WALDEMAR, having arrived, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 13th March will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on the 13th of March, at 9.30 A.M.

All Claims must reach us before the 17th of March, 1909, as they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, MELCHERS & CO., *Agents.*

Hongkong, March 6, 1909. 338

'BEN' LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP *BENLAWERS.*

FROM MIDDLESBRO', ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous GODOWNS of the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 12th March will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 18th March, or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 12th March, at 11 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., *Agents.*

Hongkong, March 6, 1909. 336

Notices to Consignees.

AMERICAN & MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SINGAPORE & NEW YORK.

THE Steamship BLOEMFONTEIN, Captain LINKLATER, having arrived from the above port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on WEDNESDAY, the 17th inst., at 3 P.M.

All Claims must be presented within fifteen days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 17th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., *Agents.*

Hongkong, March 11, 1909. 346

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per Steamship ASIA.

The above-named vessel having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed at once at Consignees' risk and expense.

Cargo remaining on board after SATURDAY, March 13th, 1909, will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

All Cargo undelivered on THURSDAY, March 18th, 1909, at Noon, will be subject to rent.

All chafed and otherwise damaged cargo will be examined at the above Company's Godown on TUESDAY, March 16th, 1909, at 10 a.m.

S. SILVERSTONE, *Agent.*

Hongkong, March 11, 1909. 347

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL FUNDS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1907, £18,114,624.

I.—Authorised Capital £5,000,000		
Subscribed Capital £2,750,000		
Paid-up Capital	£687,500	0 0
II.—Fire Funds	3,065,374	15 7
III.—Life & Annuity Funds	14,315,842	10 3
Sinking Fund Account	45,907	5 3
	£18,114,624	11 1
Revenue—Fire Branch	2,220,652	13 7
Life & Annuity Branches	1,847,224	15 4
Sinking Fund Account	8,283	6 0
	£4,136,159	15 11

The Accumulated Funds of the Fire and Life Departments are free from liability in respect of each other.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. *Agents.* 24

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m.	Every 30 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	Every 10 minutes.
11.45 a.m. to 12 Noon	Every 15 minutes.
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.	Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.	Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.	Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra Cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, *General Managers.* 16

EUROPEAN AGENCY.

INDENTS promptly executed at lowest cash prices for all kinds of British and Continental goods, including :—

Books and Stationery.
Boots, Shoes and Leather.
Chemicals and Druggists' Sundries.
China, Earthenware and Glassware.
Cycles, Motors and Accessories.
Drapery, Millinery and Piece Goods.
Fancy Goods, Perfumery.
Hardware, Machinery and Metals.
Jewellery, Plate and Watches.
Photographic and Optical Goods.
Provisions and Oilmen's Stores.
etc., etc.

Commission 2½% to 5%.
Trade Discount allowed.
Special Quotations on Demand.
Sample Cases from £10 upwards.
Consignments of Produce Sold on Account.

WILLIAM WILSON & SONS. (Established 1814).

25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.

Cable Address: 'ANNUITIES, LONDON.

REFORM IN CHINA.

BEING a letter addressed to Rear-Admiral Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, M.P. And an article in reply to CHINA'S 'THE SLEEP AND AWAKENING.

To be had in pamphlet form at the CHINA MAIL Office, 5, Wyndham Street.

Price.....50 Cents.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY

SHORTEST AND QUICKEST ROUTE BETWEEN

CHINA & EUROPE, via DAIREN (DALNY).

MAIN RAILWAY LINE—Semi-Weekly Express Service from Dairen to Changchun (Kwanchengtsu), in connection with Siberian Express trains at Harbin, by a train composed of excellently equipped Sleeping and Dining Cars expressly built for the Company by the Pullman Car Co.

BRANCH RAILWAY LINES:

RYOJUN LINE—For Ryojun (Port Arthur), 2 hours from Dairen.

YINGKOW LINE—For Yingkow (Newchwang), 4 hour from Tashihchiao Junction.

ANTUNG-HSIEN LINE—A light railway from Mukden to Antung-Hsien connecting with the Korean Railway.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE—Regular Direct Weekly Service by the fast Passenger Steamer "Kosai Maru" (3,677 tons) sailing from Dairen every Monday and from Shanghai every Friday, in connection with the South Manchurian Express and Trans-Siberian Route (International Train de Luxe).

RAILWAY HOTELS—YAMATO HOTEL (Tel. Add.: "YAMATO"). At DAIREN (Dalny), PORT ARTHUR and CHANGCHUN (Kwanchengtsu), all managed by the Company and provided with every convenience, luxury, and comfort.

TICKET AGENTS in the FAR EAST & EUROPE:—Messrs. THOS. COOK & SON, and the INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR and EXPRESS TRAINS CO.

FUSHUN COAL.

FUSHUN COLLIERIES—Fushun Steam Coal is supplied at Dairen, Yingkow, etc. Fresh stock always on hand.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY COMPANY, DAIREN.

TEL. ADD.: 'MANTETSU.' CODES: A.B.C., 5TH ED., A.1., AND LIEBER'S.

Hongkong, January 1, 1909.

Hotels.

KING'S HOTEL, WEI-HAI-WEI.

THIS First-Class Hotel is now under new Management and has recently been thoroughly renovated. It contains spacious reception, bed, and billiard rooms and is very well situated on high ground and commands a fine view of the Harbour and surrounding Country, and is fitted throughout with Electric Light. Hot and Cold Water laid on. Terms moderate. For further particulars apply to

DUNCAN CLARK, *Manager,* WEI-HAI-WEI.

January 14, 1909. 70

KING EDWARD HOTEL

A HIGH-CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA ROOMS. PRIVATE BAR AND BILLIARD ROOMS. Hot and Cold Water throughout. Electrically Lighted. Electric Fans (if required). Electric Passenger Elevator to each Floor. TABLE D'HOTE AT SEPARATE TABLES. Tele. Address: 'VICTORIA,' Hongkong. For Terms, etc., apply to the MANAGER.

Hongkong, October 2, 1908. 1352

'BRAESIDE,' PRIVATE HOTEL,

STANDING in its own grounds with Tennis and Croquet Lawns, Large Airy and Well Furnished Rooms, Every home comfort. Fine View of the Harbour. Telephone, No. 690.

Apply to MRS F. W. WATTS, 'Braeside,' 20, Macdonnell Road.

Hongkong, September 2, 1908. 1214

'KINGSCLERE,' PRIVATE HOTEL.

APPROACHED from Kennedy Road and Macdonnell Road.

Tel. No. 134. Teleg. Address: 'SACHSOLA.' A.B.C. Code, 4th Ed.

Electric light, hot and cold water throughout; Billiards, tennis, croquet, putting green and fine stabling for horses.

Proprietress, MISS F. SACHSE.

Hongkong, September 1, 1908. 1208

VICTORIA HOTEL, SHAMEEN, CANTON.

Manager.....MR H. HAYNES.

Telegraphic Address 'Victoria Shameen.'

Situated on the British Concession.

MACAO HOTEL, MACAO.

Manager.....MR H. N. BEAUCHEMIN.

Telegraphic Address 'Harmer Macao.'

Situated in the Centre of the Praya Grand.

Both Hotels electrically lighted and under experienced European Supervision. GUIDES AND CHAIRS PROVIDED. Every information and special attention to Tourists. Reasonable Rates.

WM. FARMER, *Proprietor.*

Macao, May 13, 1908. 730

SECOND EDITION.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES OF INDIA, BURMA, SIAM, THE MALAY PENINSULA, CAMBODIA, ANNAM, TIBET, CHINA AND JAPAN,

Entrusted to the SOCIETY of the 'MISSION ETRANGÈRE.'

Translated by EDWARD HARPER PARKER and Reprinted from THE CHINA REVIEW.

PRICE 50 Cents.

FOR SALE AT THE 'CHINA MAIL OFFICE, 6, Queen's Road Central.

EAST PRAYA RECLAMATION SCHEME.

AS PROPOSED TO THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT AND THE MARINE LOT-HOLDERS BY SIR PAUL CHATER.

The Full Details Printed in Pamphlet Form.

Copies may be had at 'CHINA MAIL' Office, 6, Wyndham Street.

Price 50 Cents each.

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymously signed communications that have already appeared in other papers will be inserted.

Orders for extra copies of the 'CHINA MAIL' should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts., Credit 20 cts. per copy.

Alterations and additions to Advertisements on Pages 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7, should be sent to the Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11 a.m. New Advertisements should be sent in before 5 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Telegraphic Address: Mail, Hongkong.
Telephone No. 22.

AGENTS.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, *Clement's Lane, Lombard Street,* E.C. CLARKE, SON & PLATT, 85 *Gracechurch St.*, E.C. G. STREET & Co., Ltd., 30, *Cornhill*, GORDON & GOTCH, 15 *St. Bride St.*, E.C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 21, *Cannon Street*, E.C. WILLS, Ltd., 154, *Cannon Street*, E.C. ROBERT WATKIN, 150, *Fleet Street*. C. MITCHELL & Co., *Snow Hill, Holborn Viaduct*, E.C. D. J. KNIGHT & Co., 3, *Whitefriars St.*, E.C. MATHER & CROWTHER, Ltd., 10, 11, 12 *New Bridge St.*, E.C. MILTON & Co., 22, *Glasshouse St. Regent St.*, W.

PARIS AND EUROPE: MAYNARD FAYRE & Co., 18 *Rue de la Grange Batelière, Paris.* The Rev. Dr. HAMM, D.P.L., 12 *Rue Vivienne, Paris.*

NEW YORK:—THE CHINESE EVANGELISM OFFICE, 52, *West 25th Street.*

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BRAN & BLACK, *San Francisco.*

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, *Melbourne and Sydney.*

CEYLON:—W. M. SMITH & Co., THE APOTHECARIES Co., *Colombo.*

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.:—KELLY & WALSH, Ltd., *Singapore.*

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:—A. S. WATSON & Co., *Manila.*

CHINA:—*Canton*, PATELL & Co. *Amoy*, THE AMOY STORE. *Foochow*, BROTHERS & Co. *Shanghai*, KELLY & WALSH, LTD. *Yokohama* KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

THE CHINA MAIL, LTD., 5, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER EVER ISSUED UNDER PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

The Chinese Mail

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM NORTH CHINA.

ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

$6 per ANNUM delivered in Hongkong, $12.50 to all Coast Ports.

5 WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG.

Orders booked by Manager, CHINA MAIL.

WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese).

WASHERMAN BOOKS, for the use of Families and Gentlemen, may be had at the CHINA MAIL Office.—Price, 50 Cents.

Orders at the Office, 5, Wyndham Street.

THE KUTSANG.

We learn from Shanghai papers that as soon as the Indo-China steamer Kutsang (Capt. Bradley) struck the rocks in Haitan Strait on the evening of the 4th inst, she was headed for the sandy part of the shore and beached in a sheltered position. The rock on which the vessel struck is situated in the Hungwha channel. News was got to the shore as soon possible and telegrams sent for assistance. The C.N. str. Paoting arrived on the scene, as we already know, and took off all the passengers from the stranded vessel and took them on to Shanghai. There are a great number of fishermen in the vicinity, but it was not believed that they would attempt looting. The crew of the Kutsang includes nine foreigners and as they are well armed, they would be able to give a good account of themselves should occasion arise. It is also expected that a gunboat will be despatched to the scene to offer protection. The C. M. str. Feiching reports that the Kutsang is lying in a secure and sheltered position with her propeller showing, but as there is a rise and fall of the tide of over twenty feet this is not to be wondered at.

Messrs Jardine, Matheson and Co. have courteously informed us that they received a telegram this morning from Foochow which states that the damage to the s.s. Kutsang is not extensive. The holes in her hull have been located and plugged up. She left yesterday afternoon for Shanghai.

Another telegram from Amoy states that the s.s. Kutsang passed the s.s. Haiyang (Capt. A. E. Hodgins) in long. 25 N., lat. 120 E., and signalled "All's Well."

We understand the salvage steamer Protector left here for the scene of the accident soon after the news reached us; so, we presume, she has been of material assistance to the stranded vessel.

WEATHER REPORT.

The following notice is issued from the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 12th at 11.55 a.—The barometer has fallen over W. Japan and the Loochoos, and risen over E. Japan and N. China.

A depression, formed to the South of the Lower Yangtze, has moved into the Eastern Sea and will reach the coast of S.W. Japan to-day.

An area of high pressure is spreading over N. China from the N.W., and N.E. monsoon conditions will probably be re-established in the Formosa Channel, and along the northern shores of the China Sea by to-morrow.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inches.

Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-morrow:—

1.—Hongkong and Neighbourhood: Wind backing to E. and N.E. and freshening; squally, rainy, fog at times.

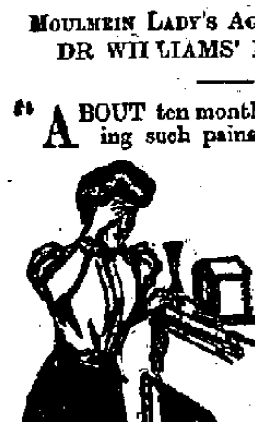
2.—Formosa Channel, Same as No. 1.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamocks: Same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: Same as No. 1.

FROM HEADACHES AND BACK PAINS TO SPLENDID HEALTH.

MOULMEIN LADY'S AGONIES ENDED BY DR WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS.



"ABOUT ten months ago I was suffering such pains in my back that walking, rising, or moving in any way gave me most awful agony," said Mrs Ida Hearsay, wife of H. C. Hearsay Esq., of the Burma Forests Department, when interviewed at her home in Mopoon, Moulmein, recently.

"I was aflicted with splitting headaches and lost all desire for food," continued this lady. "Disordered kidneys were the cause of my ill-health I was told. For two months I gradually grew worse and worse, and then I was persuaded to try Dr Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I am sure that I owe my present splendid health to these Pills. After the second bottle of them I began to feel much better, the pains in my back had decreased and my head had ceased to ache. So I continued taking the Pills until when I had finished the third bottle all my aches and pains had entirely disappeared, and not only that, but I felt and looked better in every way than I had done for years. I have not the slightest objection to these facts being made public," said Mrs Hearsay in conclusion.

As the great remedy for the back pains, headaches, and other irregularities of health which so many women suffer between youth and middle age Dr Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have enjoyed a world-wide reputation for many years, and they are likewise famous as a specific for all ailments arising from poverty or impurity of the blood in both sexes. Thousands of testimonials from grateful cured sufferers prove their health-restoring efficacy in even the worst cases of Anæmia, Debility, Indigestion, Liver complaint, Paralysis, Beri-Beri, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Malaria, Eczema, Scrofula and skin eruptions generally. Many thankful parents tell how their weak, sickly, undergrown children have become healthy and strong by their use. Obtainable at most shops where medicines are sold. Dr Williams' Pink Pills can also be had direct from the Dr Williams' Medicine Co., 8B Kinkiang Rd, Shanghai, at $1.50 Mex. per bottle, or 6 bottles for $8 Mex.

NOTICE.

M. Gains,

MILLINER.

HAS REMOVED HER BUSINESS TO

No. 2, Robinson Rd, KOWLOON.

RHEUMATISM.

NO external application is equal to Chamberlain's Pain Balm for Rheumatism. Prompt relief follows its use. [illegible]

To-day's Advertisements

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR CALLAO, IQUIQUE, VALPARAISO, ETC., VIA JAPAN PORTS, MAMZANILLO & SALINA CRUZ (MEXICO).

s.s. America Maru	6000 tons gross	Sails	April 14th,	09.
s.s. Hongkong Maru	6000 „	„	June,	09.
s.s. Manshu Maru	5000 „	„	August,	09.

For particulars apply to K. MATSDA, *Manager*.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA, YORK BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, March 10, 1909. 34

1909-10.

SEALED TENDERS in duplicate will be received at the R. N. HOSPITAL until 10 A.M., on the 22nd March, 1909, from persons desirous of supplying BEEF, MUTTON, FOWLS, PORK, BREAD, CHEESE, PURE COW'S MILK, AERATED WATERS, ICE, and other Provisions, and necessaries for the year ending 31st March, 1910.

Sealed Tenders in duplicate will also be received for COAL (Akaike and Yubari). Printed Forms of Tender and further particulars can be obtained at the R. N. Hospital.

The right to reject the lowest or any Tender is reserved.

WM. TAIT,
Deputy Inspector General.

R. N. HOSPITAL,
Hongkong, March 12, 1909. 349

NOTICE.

ANYONE having information relative to FLETCHER BERNARD WAGNER, originally of Indianapolis, and last heard from in Glasgow, Scotland in 1905, is requested to communicate with the AMERICAN CONSUL GENERAL at Hongkong.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909. 29

HOTEL 6% DEBENTURES.

DEBENTURE HOLDERS are reminded that the Old Bonds must be EXCHANGED for NEW BONDS, obtainable on application to the Chief Accountant of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

C. MOONEY.
HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909. 350

NOTICE OF IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

LOCAL AGENCY FOR THE ISSUE OF RAILWAY REDEMPTION BONDS.

WE beg to inform the Public that we have received the following despatch from the Board of Communications:—

The Board has a scheme in hand for the redemption of the Peking-Hankow Railway by issuing public bonds to the amount of ten million dollars which has been approved by the throne. Bonds can be taken up from the 10th of February. In order to induce the public to take them up everywhere it has been decided to appoint as Agent, Taotai WAN, Director of the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration of Hongkong, as Agent in Hongkong to issue such bonds. The necessary forms will be forwarded to him as soon as their audit numbers are affixed. In the mean time the said Taotai will attend to this matter according to the following regulation.

It is hereby notified that the Bonds are for the purpose of redeeming the Peking-Hankow Railway and are issued at $100 each. The Bonds will bear number only and no names are required and any person can invest their money in them. The bonds will bear an annual interest of 7% with a bonus, which shall be paid out of a quarter of the profits of the said Railway, to be divided among the holders of the bonds, therefore the total interest will be about 10% payable half-yearly by the Imperial Administration.

Further specifications and particulars may be obtained on application at this Office.

THE IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909. 351

THE

DAIRY FARM Co.,

Limited.

Reduction in Prices of Australian Butter

From 1st February, 1909.

'Buttercup' Brand ....73 cts per lb.
'Dairy maid' Brand............75 cts „
'Daisy' Brand ....80 cts „

Sold in ½ and ¼ lbs. pats to suit customers.

Hongkong, May 2, 1908. 96

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

STEAM FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, HIOGO AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship PRINZ LUDWIG, Captain F. v. BINZER, will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 13th inst., at 11 a.m.

For further particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,
MELCHERS & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909. 264

KOWLOON HOTEL.

Mr A. Abine	Mr G. D. Nisbronner
Master Compere	Mr H. Newish
Mr and Mrs Compere	Mr P. C. Pitts
Mr C. Cocks	Mr W. B. Simpson
Mr J. H. Gardiner	Mr P. E. F. Stone
Miss E. A. Irving	

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

March 11.

Sumatra, British steamer, 2,976, E. W. Bruce, London January 31, and Singapore March 6, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Pongtong, German steamer, 993, W. Botefuhr, Bangkok March 3, Rice.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Suruga, British steamer, 2,727, Chubb, Manila March 8, General. — DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Tiger, German gunboat, 1,000, Ackerman, from Manila.

March 12.

Haimun, British str., 698, J. W. Evans, Swatow March 11, General. — DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

Ghazee, British str., 3,242, D. A. Cave, Shanghai March 8, General.—DODWELL & CO., LD.

Prinz Ludwig, German str., 9,63, F. v. Binzer Hamburg Jan. 28, and Singapore March 8. Mails and General. — MELCHERS & Co.

Taming, British steamer, 1,350, A. Sommerville, Manila March 9, Sugar, Wool and Tobacco.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,464, Smith, Bombay and Singapore March 5, Cotton and General. — NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

DEPARTURES.

March 12.

Hupeh, for Haiphong.
Shini Maru, for Kobe.
Daiya Maru, for Nagasaki.
Kjeld, for Chefoo.
Chinhua, for Shanghai.
Hanoi, for Kwong-chow-wan.
Haitan, for Swatow.
Sumatra, for Shanghai.
Knivsberg, for Hoihow.
Yuensang, for Manila.
Arratoon Apcar, for Shanghai.
Marie, for Bangkok.
Waishing, for Foochow.

CLEARED.

Amara, for Hongay.
Kamor, for Haiphong.
Tjiliwong, for Yokohama.
Choufa, for Swatow.
Zafiro, for Manila.
Hongkong, for Haiphong.
Auchenblae, for Kobe.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sumatra*, for Hongkong: from London, Mrs W. Tillery, Miss Wetherell, Mr and Mrs McAskill, Mr R. Long, Mr Bonnerman, Mr E. Gill, Miss M. H. Potts, Miss E. Potts, Miss M. Potts, and Master W. Potts; from Port Said, Mr and Mrs Belfield, and Miss Clarkson; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Scott, Mr and Mrs Van Stadt, 3 children and 2 servants, Mr W. Birkmyne, Mr and Mrs J. Harrington, and Mr A. Pattman. From London: for Shanghai, Mrs A. Saxon, Miss W. Saxon, Mr and Mrs H. Emerson and child, Messrs W. Terry, E. Hindson, D. McKee, G. Bennett, C. Donaldson, and G. Ross; for Yokohama, Mrs Going. From Marseilles: for Yokohama, Col. W. Babtie.

Per *Asia*, for Hongkong: from San Francisco, Mr and Mrs O. A. Custer, Mrs F. H. Kew, Mr and Mrs C. Shaw, and Mr Wm. Shera; from Honolulu, Mr J. G. O. deJager; from Kobe, Mrs B. Berelsheimer, Mr and Mrs Wm. Greenbaum, Mr and Mrs W.S. Hall, Mr and Mrs R. T. Winston, Messrs L. C. Crollin and C. C. Teall; from Manila, Mr and Mrs D. W. Berg, Miss Luisa Berg, Mrs J. H. Collins, Master Lee Collins, Miss E. H. Colburn, Miss E. V. Elser, Mr and Mrs F. X. P. Garcia, Master S. L. Garcia, Master F. A. Garcia, Miss G. A. Garcia, Mr T. S. Green, Mr F. A. Hellabough, Capt. E. P. Jervey, Jr., Mrs E. P. Jervey, Admiral and Mrs T. F. Jewell, Mr and Mrs C. H. Logan, Miss Beatrice Logan, Miss E. Metcalf, Mr W. Prescott, Master Ray Squires, Master Charles Squires Mrs A. C. Stott, Miss B. Watkins, Mrs J. H. Dayton, Miss Gertrude Elser, Mrs H. Hellis, Mrs P. J. Horne, Mrs H. T. Kays, Capt. and Mrs R. F. Metcalfe, Mrs J. P. Parker, Miss M. T. Parker, Mr W. M. Theband and child, Mr S. A. Watson, Mrs W. C. Colburn, Mrs E. E. Elser, Mr W. S. Fracer, Mrs B. A. Green, Master Herbert D. Hell, Mrs A. J. James, Mrs W. L. Lyster, Miss E. Schandone, and Mr R. Welfskill.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Mr Luykx, and Mr Brownigg.

Per *Prinz Ludwig*, for Hongkong: from Southampton, Mr D. Heslop, Mrs O. Brockett, Mr A. Gardiner, Mr James Orr, Mr A. Brown, Rev. P. Stevens, Mr and Mrs G. Hunter; from Genoa, Mr and Mrs P. Nagel, Mrs M. C. Brooks, Mr Somers H. Ellis, Mr. Herm. Kruck, Missionar J. Meier, Miss E. Heimerdinger, and Miss E. Herwig; from Colombo, Mr and Mrs D. N. Ritchie, Mr C. S. Cooper, Miss Irene K. Lane, Mr and Mrs D. H. Bishop, Mrs and Miss Taylor, Mr and Mrs C. Beniczki, Mr, Mrs and Miss Bush, Mr Nickerson; from Singapore, Vicomte and Vicomtesse de Mancis, Mr L. Ruprecht, Miss L. Brocklesby Davis, Miss Maud Burdett, Mr Francis M. Wilson, Mrs J. Pahn, Mrs W. Melville Foster, Mr and Mrs Ainsley, Mr and Mrs P. Hansen, Miss E. McNeill, Miss A. B. Landberg, Mr and Mrs G. Kip, Mr Harris, Mr Sayers and party, Mr Doherty Bergassessor L. Becker, Baronin von Zedlitz, Bergassessor Fl. von Oven, O. Hahn, Messrs Schlechtendahl, I. J. F. Froger, J. M. Little, A. Wates, J. Bateman, O. Eldhard, and L. Pirotte.

Per *Taming*, from Manila, Mr D. McKibbin, Mr C. B. Chonn, Miss L. Postlewait, Miss Isa Fisher, Messrs Faustino Martinez, Luis Santos, W. H. Smith, and D. Herabeim.

VESSELS AT THE DOCKS.

At Kowloon.—Tarlac, Errol, Venus, H.M.S. Robin, H.M.S. Otter Hoiching, Suruga, Vigilante, Patria, Johanne.

Cosmopolitan.—Alesia, Batnan.

Aberdeen.—Kwongtai.

STEAMERS PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

February 16, *Monmouthshire, Lothian*.
February 19, *Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, Kanagawa Maru*.
February 23, *Astyanax, Sunda*.
February 26, *Muncaster Castle, Glenearn, Nubia, Glenlogan, Peleus, Tydeus*.
March 2, *Benalder, Indrani, Peking*.
March 5, *Goeben, Hakata Maru, Benledi, Kawachi Maru, Machaon*.
March 9, *Aragonia, Benvorlich, China (Aus.), Bombay Maru, Ernest Simons, Sydney, Nyanza, Teucer*.

ARRIVALS AT HOME.

March 9, *Indrawadi*.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

Mails.

The P. M. S. *Mongolia* sailed from Yokohama on Sunday, the 7th March, and is due to arrive at this port via Kobe, Nagasaki and Shanghai on Tuesday, March 16th.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Glenfarg* arrived at Yokohama at 7.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 11th March, and left again at 4 p.m. the same day for Kobe, where she is due to arrive at 6 a.m. on Saturday, the 13th March.

Expected.

The Danish steamship *Tranquebar* left Singapore on Saturday, the 6th March, p.m., and may be expected here on or about Saturday, the 13th March.

The H. A. L. s.s. *Ambria* left Singapore on the 6th March, p.m., and may be expected here on or about the 13th March, a.m.

The Java-China-Japan Lijn str. *Tjibodas* left Kobe for this port on the 7th March, and may be expected here on or about the 13th March.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kumano Maru* (Australian Line) left Thursday Island for this port on the 4th March, and is expected here on the 15th March.

The s.s. *Lightning* from Calcutta, left Singapore on the afternoon of 10th March, and may be expected here on or about the 16th March.

The s.s. *Gregory Apcar* left Moji on the afternoon of 10th March, and is due here on the 15th March.

The Java-China-Japan Lijn str. *Tjimahi* left Macassar for this port on the 9th March, and may be expected here on or about the 16th March, p.m.

The Indo-China S. N. Co., Ld.'s s.s. *Suisang* left Calcutta for this port via the Straits on 3rd March, and may be expected here on or about 19th March.

The Indo-China S. N. Co., Ld.'s s.s. *Fooksang* left Calcutta for this port via the Straits on 7th March, and may be expected here on or about the 23rd March.

The Bank Line Ld. s.s. *Oraigvar* left Moji on March 7th for Hongkong.

Latest Advices.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of Japan* arrived at Yokohama at 12.30 p.m., on Thursday the 11th March, and left again at 6 p.m. the same day for Kobe, where she is due to arrive at 6 p.m. on Friday, the 12th March.

The H. A. L. s.s. *Saxonia* left Amoy on the 11th March, p.m., and may be expected here on the 13th March, at daylight.

The M. M. Co.'s steamer *Caledonien* with the FRENCH MAIL of the 14th Feb., and mails from London of the 13th Feb., will leave Saigon on Friday, the 12th March, at 7 p.m., and may be expected to arrive here on Monday, the 15th March, at noon, and will leave for Shanghai and Japan on the same day. This packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on the 9th January.

The Austrian Lloyd's s.s. *Austria* left Singapore for this port on the 11th March, p.m., and is due here on the 17th March.

☞ Correspondence for EUROPE via SIBERIA, is forwarded from HONGKONG by all vessels sailing for SHANGHAI.

Approximate times of closing mails at Shanghai via Dalny and Siberia.

12th March ....at 11.45 a.m.
16th March ....at 3.15 p.m.
26th March ....at 11.45 a.m.

The Public are informed that the Cash on Delivery service from the United Kingdom to Hongkong commenced on the 1st of February 1909.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

Mail will Close:—

For BATAVIA, SAMARANG & SOURABAYA.
Per *Quarta*, at 10 a.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For DURBAN.
Per *Heliopolis*, at 11 a.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For MANILA.—
Per *Zafiro*, at 11 a.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For SWATOW.—
Per *Nanshan*, at 11 a.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For MACAO.—
Per *Sui Tai*, at 1.15 p.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For TSINGTAU.
Per *Mathilde Koerner*, at 3 p.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For HAIPHONG.—
Per *Amigo*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For SWATOW, AMOY & TAMSUI.
Per *Joshin Maru*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For SHANGHAI.—
Per *Chenan*, at 5 p.m., on Saturday, the 13th March.

For SWATOW.
Per *Haimun*, at 9 a.m., on Sunday, the 14th March.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909.

On London—
Bank Wire... ... ...1/8⅛
„ On demand, ...1/8¼
„ 30 days' sight 1/8⅜
„ 4 months' sight... ... ...1/8½
Credits, 4 months' sight,... ...1/9
Documentary, 4 months' sight 1/9⅛

On Paris—
On demand, ... 218
Credits, 4 months' sight,... ... 222

On Berlin—
On demand, ... 177

On New York—
On demand, ... 42½
Credit, 60 days' sight, ... 43¼

On Bombay—
Wire, ... 130
On demand, ... 130½

On Calcutta—
Wire, ... 130
On demand, ... 130½

On Singapore—
On demand, ... 74¼

On Manila—
On demand, ... 84¾

On Shanghai—
On demand, ... 74¼
30 days' sight, (private paper) 75¼

On Yokohama—
On demand, ... 84½

Gold Leaf, 100 fine, (per tael) ...$59.90
Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate) $11.40
Silver (per oz.) 23⅜
Bar Silver in Hongkong ... ...6½%p.
Chinese Copper Cash ... ...1 % prem.
Copper Cents ... ...16 % dis.
Rate of Native Interest ... 4 % p.a.
Chinese Sub. Coin ... ...$7½% dis.
Hongkong Sub. Coin ... ...$7 % dis.

VISITORS AT HOTELS.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

Mr P. R. Adams	Dr Humpstone
Mr J. B. Affleck	Capt. R. Innes
Mr A. J. Armitage	Mr J. G. O. de Jager
Mr S. Armstrong	Admiral and Mrs Jewell
Col. W Babtie	Mr W. B. Knight
Mr M. Baring	Mr G. M. Lack
Mr H. Barnicot	Mr J. W. Law
Mr and Mrs T. L. Barret	Mr J. Myron Leavitt
Mr H. A. Pattmann	Mr J. W. Leuty
Mr Paul Becker	Mr J. H. Lewis and valet
Mr and Mrs T. B. Belfield	Mrs J. Lockwood
Mr and Mrs Bernabo	Mr D. Lockwood
Miss B. Berelzheimer	Mr and Mrs J. C. Low
Mr W. Birkmyer	Mr D Macdonald
Dr G. D. R. Black	Mr L. Magne
Mr and Mrs W. C. Bunner	Mr and Mrs D. P. Maitland
Mr and Mrs C. E. Caldwell	Miss K. A. Massey
Mrs V. H. Cassedy	Mrs B. T. Matheson and child
Mrs G. N. Cate	Mr G. C. McIntosh
Miss H. V. Clarkson	Dr G. W. McKean
Mrs W. C. Colburn	Dr D. McKibbin
Miss E. H. Colburn	Mr H. J. Morse
Mr R. L. Condon	Mr B. L. Packer
Mr and Mrs E. Convoisier	Dr and Mrs W. W. Pearse
Mrs W. H. Cook	Mr E. H. Ray
Mrs Cozzino	Mr F. Richardson
Dr and Mrs C. A. Custer	Mrs A. Rigold
Misses Danvers	Miss F. E. Sandes
Mrs Dewey	Mr P. Sansford
Mr A. Ellis	Mr and Mrs Seymour
Mr W. S. Fraser	Mr A. J. Skinn
Miss M. L. Frederick	Mr Crowther Smith
Mr B. Fritsch	Mr R. A. Smith
Mr Denman Fuller	Mr J. Spittles
Mr Stuart J. Fuller	Mr C. H. Sprague
Mr and Mrs H. D. Gale, child & nurse	Mr F. W. Prising
Mr Gelinsky	Mr W. T. Stebbing
Mr W. F. Gray	Mr W. D. Sullivan
Mr & Mrs W. Greenbaum	Mr C. C. Teall
Capt. T. P. Hall	Mr A. Temperley
Mr E. J. Hall	Mr Thacher
Mr and Mrs J. J. Harrington	Mr H. P. Thomas
Mr G. V. Hayes	Mr Tooney
Mr P. E. Heermann	Mr M. C. Wallach
Hon. Mr E. A. Hewett	Miss I. C. Welbe
Capt. A. Akin Higgins	Mr W. F. Wenyon
Mr E. K. Howe	Mr W. A. H. Wilson
	Mr and Mrs R. P. Winston
	Mr & Mrs Woollan
	Mr W. S. Young

PEAK HOTEL.

Mr E. F. Aucott	Mr P. Jacks
Dr Andrey	Mr H. N. Jeffries
Lt.-Col. & Mrs Bayard	Mr and Mrs Joseph
Surg. & Mrs Beadnell	Mrs Knotts
Mr Benst	Mr Lloyd
Mr and Mrs Bird and children	Rev. Longridge
Mr and Mrs Bowen	Mr R. Marten
Miss Campbell	Mr R. Mitchell
Capt. and Mrs Craig	Mr A. Moir
Col. Darling	Eng.-Comdr. and Mrs Montfield
Mr A. Davidson	Mr A. Moreno
Mr W. Dennis	Mr and Mrs Morley
Capt. & Mrs Dooner	Mr & Miss Parker
Rev. and Mrs Dallas Ennies	Ness
Mr E. Davidson	Mr Nicoloisen
Mr and Mrs Dowley	Mr Peel
Mr A. Ellis	Mr T. L. Perkins
Miss Evans	Lt. Col. Reid
Capt. and Mrs Finch	Mr & Mrs H. Rissland
Mr and Mrs Fisher	Mr and Mrs Sayle
Mr S. H. Galbraith	Mrs Sawer
Mr Gausden	Mr A. Sinclair
Mr F. J. Gelsthorpe	Mr A. Findlay Smith
Mrs Grieve	Lt.-Col. Stacpole
Mr H. Hancock	Lt. & Mrs Thompson
Mr Hansen	Rev. Thornhill
Mr Harris	Lt. and Mrs Tweedie, R.N.
Mr and Mrs Hassan	Mr M. R. Wharkirst
Mr W. T. Hockaday	Mr and Mrs White
Mr and Mrs W. Humphreys	Dr FitzWilliams
Dr and Mrs Hunter	Mrs Williams and children

GRAND CARLTON HOTEL.

Mr W. Almers	Misses Judah
Mr J. Ball	Mrs Kay
Mr S. J. Bolden	Mr S. Lack
Mr and Mrs Berg	Mr W. Larard
Mr C. Cabos	Mr & Mrs Lohmann
Mrs Campbell	Master Lohmann
Mr E. G. Dale	Mr H. Van Luylen
Mr F. O. Davies	Mrs McKee
Mr E. W. Day	Mr M. Moore
Mr and Misses Elser	Miss A. Munro
Mr Andree Gaudet	Mr R. Nikkels
Mr B. Gilby	Mr T. Philips
Mr V. Goulborn	Miss Raey
Mr R. A. Gowen	Mr E. Reese
Mr H. Greig	Mr H. E. Riggs
Mr W. H. Groskamp	Mr A. J. Roland
Mr G. M. Hay	Miss Schwalone
Mrs Hillier	Mr G. Shield
Mr A. L. A. Hissink	Mr S. E. Stanier
Mr W. Hone	Mr H. F. Stoneham
Mrs Horne	Mr A. E. B. Tagnoen
Mr J. Ingram	Mr W. Taylor
Mrs G. J. James	Mr W. Vincent
Mrs S. Judah	Mr M. H. Woutman

Temperature.

Hongkong, March 12, 1909.

BAROMETER—	9 A.M.	...	29.86
Do.	1 P.M.	...	29.81
Do.	4 P.M.	...	29.78
THERMOMETER—	9 A.M.	...	71
Do.	1 P.M.	...	73
Do.	4 P.M.	...	74
Do. (Wet bulb)	9 A.M.	...	70
Do. Do.	1 P.M.	...	71
Do. Do.	4 P.M.	...	72
Do. Maximum			74
Do. Minimum over night			69

BALTIMORE HOTEL.

Mr W. Direng	Mr and Mrs W. S. Kerr
Mr E. Flood	Mr Hirji Khatsey
Mr E. Mew Fung	Mr T. E. Munday
Mr J. E. Hacking	Mr M. Reoping and two servants
Mr E. R. Hay	Mr G. E. Ross
Mr Hill	Mrs Stevenson
Mr Hutcheson	Mr and Mrs C. Welch
Mr H. James	Mr A. E. Wright
Mr J. H. Jenkins	

ORIENTAL HOTEL.

Mr Wm. B. Bayes	Mr E. Manner
Mr E. Brande	Dr McOstrich
Mr F. T. Chapple	Mr and Mrs J. A. Nadeau
Mr P. Currie	Mr O. Nadeau
Mr H. Dinkela	Mr W. Pringle, Jay.
Mr H. Fies	Mr H. W. Robjohns
Mrs Gaertner & child	Mr B. Taylor
Dr F. Keyt	Mr O. H. Tricker
Mr Lennox	Mr A. Uechtmann
Mr K. A. Lowry	
Mr F. Mackay	

Vessels Advertised as Loading.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
Australian Ports	Empire (s)............	Gibb Livingston & Co..	Mar. 31, at noon.
B'bay, v S'pore, Penang	Yebochi Maru (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	March 18.
Europe, &c.	Kleist (s)	Melchers & Co.........	Mar. 24, at Noon.
Genoa, Mar., L'don, &c	Atsuta Maru (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	About April 7.
Havre & Hamburg ...	Saxonia (s)............	Hamburg-Am'ka Linie	March 13.
Haiphong	Singan (s)	Butterfield & Swire..	Mar. 13, 10 a.m.
Japan & Portland, Or.	Alesia (s)............	Portland & A. S. Co	About Mar. 20.
Amoy	Tjimahi (s)............	Java-China-Japan Lijn	2nd half Mar.
Japan	Tjibodas (s)	Java-China-Japan Lijn	2nd half Mar.
Kobe and Yokohama	Kanagawa Maru (s)..	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	Mar. 20, Daylight.
Kobe	Totomi Maru (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	March 18.
London, &c........	Macedonia (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co....	Mar. 20, at Noon.
London & Antwerp...	Flintshire (s).........	Jardine, M'son & Co., Ld	About Mar. 26
Marseilles, London &c.	Tamba Maru (s).......	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	Mar. 17, Daylight.
Manila	Loongsang (s)	Jardine, M'son & Co., Ld	Mar. 19, at 4 p.m.
Manila	Yuensang (s).........	Jardine, M'son & Co., Ld	Mar. 26, at 4 p.m.
Manila	Taming (s)............	Butterfield & Swire	Mar. 16, at 3 p.m.
Manila	Tean (s)	Butterfield & Swire	Mar. 23, at 3 p.m.
Manila	Zafiro (s)............	Shewan, Tomes & Co	Mar. 13, at Noon.
Manila	Rubi (s)	Shewan, Tomes & Co.	Mar. 20, at Noon.
Mar., L'don, A'erp, &c.	Palawan (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co..	About Mar. 24.
Mar., London & A'werp	Glamorganshire (s) ...	Jardine, M'son & Co., Ld	About April 10.
Manila, A'lian Ports...	Prinz Waldemar (s)..	Melchers & Co.........	Mar. 25, at 5 p.m.
Marseilles, v. Saigon..	Tourane (s)............	Messageries Maritimes	Mar. 16, at 1 p.m.
Manila, A'lian Ports...	Nikko Maru (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	Mar. 19, at noon.
N'saki, Kobe & Y'hama	Kumano Maru (s) ...	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	Mar. 17, Daylight
Rotterdam & Hamburg	Dortmund (s)	Hamburg-Am'ka Linie	March 22.
San Francisco v. Japan	Asia (s)	Pacific Mail S.S. Co...	Mar. 16, at Noon.
San F'cisco via Japan	Mongolia (s).........	Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	March 27, at Noon.
San Francisco v. Japan	Tenyo Maru (s)	Toyo Kisen Kaisha ..	April 6 at Noon.
San Francisco v. Japan	Korea (s)	Pacific Mail S.S. Co..	April 13, at Noon.
Seattle, v. S'hai, Japan	Minnesota (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	May 6 at Noon.
S'hai, Kobe & Y'hama	Caledonien (s)	Messageries Maritimes	About Mar. 16.
S'hai, Kobe & Y'hama	Belgravia (s)	Hamburg-Am'ka Linie	March 31.
S'hai, Kobe & Y'hama	Brisgavia (s)	Hamburg-Am'ka Linie	March 20.
S'hai, N'ki, Kobe, Y'ma	Prinz Ludwig (s)	Melchers & Co.........	Mar. 13, at 11 a.m.
S'tow, Amoy & Tamsui	Joshin Maru (s)	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	Mar. 14, at 9 a.m.
S'tow, Amoy & Anping	Shoshu Maru (s)	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	Mar. 17, at 8 a.m.
S'tow, Amoy & Tamsui	Daijin Maru (s).........	Osaka Shosen Kaisha..	Mar. 21, at 8 a.m.
Shanghai............	Chenan (s)............	Butterfield & Swire	Mar. 14, Daylight.
Shanghai............	Linan (s)	Butterfield & Swire	Mar. 18, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai............	Delhi (s)............	P. & O. S. N. Co	About Mar. 19
S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Y'ma	Nubia (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About March 27.
S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Y'ma	Fooksang (s)	Jardine, M'son & Co., Ld	Mar. 23, at Noon.
Swatow	Haimun (s)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Mar. 14 at 10 a.m.
S'tow, Amoy & F'chow	Haiyang (s)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Mar. 16, at Noon.
S'tow, Amoy & F'chow	Haiching (s)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Mar. 19 at Noon.
S'tow, Amoy & O'kiang	Tientsin (s).........	Butterfield & Swire.	Mar. 13, Daylight.
Tientsin	Kueichow (s).........	Butterfield & Swire..	Mar. 13, at 4 p.m.
Victoria, B.C., Seattle	Tosa Maru (s)	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	Mar. 16, at Noon.
Victoria, B.C., Tacoma	Gymeric (s	Dodwell & Co. Limited	March 18.
Victoria, B.C., Tacoma	Kumeric (s)	Dodwell & Co., Ld....	April 8.
Vancouver, (B.C.), &c.	Empress of Japan (s)..	Canadian P'fic R. Co	Apr. 10, at 7 a.m.
Vancouver, (B.C.), &c	Empress of China (s).	Canadian P'fic R. Co	May 1, at 7 a.m.
Vancouver (B.C.) &c	Empress of India (s)...	Canadian P'fic R. Co	Mar. 13, at 7 a.m.

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS

March 12, 1909.

Stocks.	No. of Shares.	Value.	Paid up.	Closing Quotations Cash.
BANKS.				
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corn.	120,000	$ 125	all	$925, buyers £85.10
National Bank of China, Limited ...	99,925	£ 7	£ 6 $ 50	$51, buyers
MARINE INSURANCES.				
Canton Insurance Office Co., Ld. ..	10,000	$ 250		$187½
China Traders Insurance Co., Ld....	24,000	$ 83.33	$ 25	$87, buyers
North-China Insurance Co., Ld. ...	10,000	£ 15	£ 5	Tls 97½, buyers
Union Insurance Society, Limited..	10,000	$ 250	$ 100	$830, buyers
Yangtsze Insurance Association Ld.	12,000	$ 100	$ 80	$192½, buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.				
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	$ 100	20	$165, buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. Ld.	8,000	$ 250	50	$305, ex div., buyers
DOCKS, ETC.				
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ld.	50,000	$ 50	all	$86, sellers
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited.	18,000	$ 25	$ 25	$12, sellers
New Amoy Dock Co., Ltd............	10,000	$ 6¼	$ 6¼	$9½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co. Ld...	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls 100	Tls. 87
STEAMBOATS, TUGS, ETC.				
China and Manila S. S. Co. Ld.	30,000	$ 25	$ 25	$11, sellers
Douglas Steamship Co., Limited. ..	20,000	$ 50	all	$34, buyers
H.K. C. and M. Steamboat Co., Ld.	80,000	$ 15	$ 15	$29½, sales & buyers
Indo-China S. N. Company, Ltd.	60,000	£ 5	all	$40, $20, buyers
Star Ferry Company, Ld.	10,000 / 10,000	$ 10 / $ 10	$ 10 / $ 5	$23½ / $15, sellers
Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd	1,000,000	£ 1	£ 1	56/-
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	Tls 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co., Ld. do. Preference.	200,000 / 100,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45 / Tls. 50
REFINERIES.				
China Sugar Company, Limited......	20,000	$ 100	all	$150, sellers
Luzon Sugar Company, Limited......	7,000	$ 100	all	$17, sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ld. ..	7,000	Tls 50	Tls 50	Tls. 125, buyers
WHARVES.				
H.K. & Kow. Wharf & Godown Co.	60,000	$ 50	all	$64
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co...	32,000	Tls. 100	Tls 100	Tls. 175
LAND AND BUILDING.				
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	50,000	$ 100	100	$99, sales & buyers
Shanghai Land Investment Co. Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 115
Kowloon Land and Building Company	6,000	$ 50	$ 30	$30
Wei-hai-wei Land & Building Co....	3,675	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	Tls. 9
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co....	150,000	$ 10	all	$8½, sales & buyers
West Point Building Co., Limited...	12,500	$ 50	$ 50	$44, sellers
TRAMWAYS.				
The Peak Tramways Co., Ltd......	25,000 / 50,000	$ 10 / $ 10	all / $ 1	$14 / $2
MINING.				
Société Francise des Charbonnages du Tonkin	18,000	Fcs. 250	all	$590, ex div., buyers
Raub Aust. Gold Mining Co., Ld....	200,000	£ 1	18/10	$8½, sellers
HOTELS, ETC.				
Hongkong Hotel Company, Ltd. ..	12,000	$ 50	all	$87, sellers, ex div.
Astor House Hotel Co., Ltd. (S'hai)	30,000	$ 15	$ 25	$16½
DISPENSARIES.				
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited	90,000	$ 10	$ 10	$9½, buyers
Watkins Limited	10,000	$ 10	$ 10	$2½
LIGHTING.				
H.K. and China Gas Co., Limited...	7,000	£ 10	all	$210, buyers
Shanghai Gas Company, Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 121
Hongkong Electric Co., Limited ...	80,000	$ 10	$ 10	$18½, buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	400,000	$ 10	10	$9.60, sales & sellers
H.K. Milling, Co. Ld., in Liquidation	10,000	$ 100	$ 100	Nominal
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	3,604	£ 12/6	12/6	$10, buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	1,000 ord. / 100 def.	$ 10 / $ 10	4 / 10	$12½ / $30
Union Waterboat Co., Limited	60,000	$ 10	10	$10, buyers, ex div.
Hongkong Dairy Farm Co..........	25,000	$ 7½	6	$14½, sales
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited...	5,000	$ 25	all	$200, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Limited	4,000	$ 50	$ 50	$59, sellers
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.......	16,350	£ 20	£ 20	Tls. 437½
H'kong Rope Manufactory Co., Ld.	60,000	$ 10	all	$24
Hongkong Cotton Spinning Co., Ld.	125,000	$ 10	$ 10	$9, sales
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Limited	20,000	Tls 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 115, buyers
International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Limited	10,000	Tls 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 59
Laou-Kung-Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls 100	Tls. 34
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co. Ld...	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls 500	Tls. 316
China Provident Loan Mortgage Co., Limited	200,000	$ 10	$ 10	$9.2, sales & buyers
China Borneo Company, Ltd......	60,000	$ 12	$ 12	$12½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited....	1,200	$ 10	all	$8, buyers
Wm. Powell, Limited	12,000 / 8,000	$ 7	7	$2½
South China Morning Post........	5,000	$ 25	$ 25	$24, sellers
China Light and Power Company	50,000 / 50,000	$ 10 / $ 1	$ 10 / $ 1	$4.90, buyers / $5½
Steam Laundry Company, Limited...	20,000	$ 5	5	
Weissmann Limited	125	$ 125	$ 100	$140
CIGAR COMPANIES.				
Philippine Co., Limited	67,500	$ 10	$ 1	$8, sellers
Alhambra Limited	300	$ 500	$ 500	Nominal

LOANS.	Amount.	Value.	Interest.	Quotation.
Chinese Imperial 1886	Tls. 767,200	Tls. 250	7 % p. annum	Par.

VERNON and SMYTH, *Share-Brokers.*

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